FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 JANUARY 1985

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force attacked a "medium-sized target" near Khark Island on 24 January, dealing a "destructive" blow, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Another "medium-sized target" was hit south of Khark Island on 23 January, according to a military communique carried by Voice of the Masses radio.

Lebanon

At the resumption of the Al-Naqurah military talks with Israel on 24 January, the Lebanese delegation affirmed that the Army is prepared to take over the Sidon area, Beirut radio reported. Following a 23 January Cabinet session Prime Minister Rashid Karami, in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio, maintained that Israel's Al-Naqurah proposals were "incomplete and inconsistent" with the Lebanese demand for a timetable. When the talks resumed on 24 January the Israeli delegation again contended that there is no timetable, according to Jerusalem radio.

Gromyko Mideast Visit

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko will shortly visit Kuwait, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, and Syria for talks on the latest developments in the Middle East crisis and to discuss the possibility of convening an international conference under UN auspices, KUNA reported citing sources in Amman. Monitored Soviet sources have not mentioned a Gromyko tour of the Middle East.

Egypt

GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer, who is on a 3-day visit to Egypt, discussed bilateral relations and international issues with President Husni Mubarak and Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, MENA reported.

Israel

Agreement was reached at the prime minister's office over an economic "package deal" for the next 8 months, Jerusalem radio announced. Subsidies for all types of fuel will be cancelled and fuel prices will rise immediately by around 34 percent.

PLO

Cairo's *AL-JUMHURIYAH* disclosed that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has moved his residence in Tunisia from the seafront to central Tunis for security reasons, MENA reported. Fatah Central Committee Member Salah Khalaf told the newspaper that the Syrians and Libyans had planned to assassinate 'Arafat in a naval landing operation. However, the Soviet Union recently asked 'Arafat to end his "media campaign" against Syria, according to Kuwait's *AL-QABAS*.

OPEC

The OPEC deputy secretary general, in a statement cited by OPECNA, denied reports that OPEC experts agreed on proposals for a $2.50 reduction in the oil marker price during their recent meeting in Riyadh. Although OPEC sources said the experts had also made "appreciable progress" in adjusting the imbalance in price differentials between heavy and light crudes, "informed sources" in London contended that the meeting in Riyadh failed to solve the issue of price differentials, according to KUNA.

Morocco

Hassan Visit — Interior Minister Driss Basri confirmed that King Hassan II will visit the Western Sahara on the 3 March anniversary of his accession to the throne, according to MAP. The king's visit will "witness a new green march" in which the whole country will participate to prove its national unity and unanimity over the "irreversible" Moroccan nature of the Western Sahara, Basri stated.

Criticism of Algeria — A Rabat paper cited by MAP sharply criticized Algeria for pushing the cause of Polisario and "blocking any peace initiative" at a time when all the Maghreb countries have agreed to hold a summit.

Iran

Musavi in Cuba — Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi, during a stopover in Cuba on his way to Nicaragua, discussed bilateral relations with Fidel Castro, Tehran radio reported. Musavi will spend 3 days in Nicaragua and will meet with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, the radio added.

Pakistan-DRA

Pakistan has protested to Afghanistan over further airspace violations and bombings by DRA aircraft in the Arandu region on 21, 22, and 23 January, according to reports by Karachi radio.

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KUNA: USSR's Gromyko To Visit 5 Mideast Countries

LD231755 Kuwait KUNA in English 1714 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Amman, Jan 23 (KUNA) — Well placed sources said Wednesday that the Soviet Union will soon launch a political move in the Middle East.

The sources told KUNA that Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko will shortly visit Kuwait, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt and Syria. Gromyko is expected to hold talks with heads of these states on latest developments in the Middle East crisis and discuss the possibility of convening an international conference on the Mideast problem under the auspices of the United Nations, the sources added.

The sources pointed out as well that Gromyko's visit will take place prior to American Secretary of State George Shultz' tour of the region.

AL-RA'Y on Gromyko Visit

JN240714 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 24 Jan 85 pp 1, 20

[Amin al-Qutub dispatch]

[Text] Cairo — *AL-RA'Y* has learned from well-informed sources that USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko is expected to pay a working visit to the Middle East shortly. Gromyko will visit a number of Arab capitals including Cairo, Amman, Baghdad, Damascus, and Kuwait. He will meet with the leaders of these countries and discuss the developments in the Middle East crisis and the possibility of holding a UN-sponsored international conference to solve the Middle East problem.

The Soviet ambassador in Cairo met with Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's office, and discussed with him the Soviet foreign minister's expected tour of the region which will take place prior to a similar visit which U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz intends to pay to the region in the near future.

PLO Executive Committee Meets in Tunis

GF231857 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee continued its meetings in Tunis today under the chairmanship of Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], committee chairman. The Executive Committee began its meetings yesterday in Tunis.

WAFA reported that yesterday's meeting was dedicated to the completion of the discussion of reports pertaining to the Arab and international tours undertaken by members of the Executive Committee, in addition to the next work plan designed to bolster support for the struggle of the Palestinian people on all levels. WAFA added that the discussion also focused on the subject of Zionist withdrawal from Lebanon and the efforts exerted by the PLO toward numerous international bodies, particularly the United Nations, to ensure protection for the Palestinian camps there. The Executive Committee also adopted a number of resolutions that deal with the functioning of the Palestinian committees formed by the PNC at its 17th session, in addition to other arrangements pertaining to PLO offices abroad.

Further Report

JN232010 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] All members of the PLO Executive Committee met for 6 hours in Tunis yesterday under the chairmanship of brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. The meeting was mainly devoted to dialogue in the Palestinian arena and the outcome of contacts Brother Mahmud 'Abbas, PLO Executive Committee member and head of the dialogue committee, had with representatives of the Palestine Communist Party and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Our correspondent has learned that the reports the committee heard concerning the Palestinian dialogue are encouraging, and that the Fatah movement will shortly hold meetings with the Palestinian sides that are concerned about the PLO's unity.

Committee To Study Husayn Plan

LD232009 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1754 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Tunis, 23 Jan (KUNA) — A committee led by Faruq Qaddumi and Messrs Mahmud 'Abbas, 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad, and 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya as members was set up in Tunis today by the PLO Executive Committee to study the plan presented by King Husayn, the Jordanian monarch, to solve the Middle East question.

In a statement to KUNA, Mahmud 'Abbas, member of the Executive Committee, has denied that the PLO rejected King Husayn's plan. He said: "We did not reject King Husayn's plan, but we have a point of view on it. The committee led by Qaddumi, and which will also be joined by Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Central Committee of the Fatah movement, will meet tonight to prepare a report about the point of view of the PLO toward the Jordanian plan, and also to pave the way for debating this plan tomorrow morning by all members of the Executive Committee."

MENA: Plot to Assassinate 'Arafat Uncovered

NC240714 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2330 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 23 Jan (MENA) — Salah Khalaf, Alias Abu Iyad, one of the leaders of the Fatah movement, has disclosed that there was a plan prepared by Syrians with the participation of Libyans to assassinate PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and PLO leaders in Tunisia following the recent PNC meeting in Amman.

According to a statement in *AL-JUMHURIYAH's* Thursday issue, Abu Iyad said that the plan included a naval landing operation by frogmen on Tunisian shores. The units would then go to the residences of the Palestinian leaders and 'Arafat to complete the assassination mission.

AL-JUMHURIYAH quotes reports from Tunis as saying that due to security considerations and on the basis of security reports and information, 'Arafat has moved from a villa facing the shore to a house in the middle of Tunis.

'Arafat Interviewed on Egypt, Syria, Unity

NC240755 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2300 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 23 Jan (MENA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat stressed that the PNC resolutions regarding relations with Egypt originated from the belief in the importance of the leading role that Egypt must play on the basis of its historic and cultural responsibilities toward the Arab nation.

In an exclusive interview with *AL-JUMHURIYAH* to be published on 24 January, 'Arafat said the resolution on Egypt's return to the Arab ranks is a basic one. It is one of the principal tasks of Palestinian action and one of the major lines of action for the new Palestinian leadership. We do not call it the resolution of Egypt's return but we call it the winning of Egypt.

In reply to a question on restoring the unity of the Palestinian army following the dissension, 'Arafat stressed that the Palestinian people have never been as united as they are today. National unity today is greater than it has been at any previous time. Loyalty has been demonstrated by our people inside and outside the occupied territories and also at the Palestinian camps in Syria. He added that this pledge of allegiance shows, without any doubt, the firmness of Palestinian unity inside and outside the occupied territories.

In his interview with *AL-JUMHURIYAH*, 'Arafat accused the Syrian regime of plotting to liquidate the Palestinian revolution. He said: We extend our hands to the Syrian people who are part of us. As for the Syrian regime, I say: Kindly lead the Syrian struggle to liberate the Golan before leading the Palestinian struggle to liberate Jerusalem.

Answering a question on the notion that it seems as if everything depends on Damascus decisionmaking, even the decision to hold an Arab summit, 'Arafat said: The reason for this is because the basis of Arab action is wrong, namely, unanimity, since any country can object and thus negate the decision; this is a procedural point. As for the political point, the aim is to go along with Syria in the absence of the leader, Egypt.

'Arafat called on the Arabs to convene an Arab summit without being committed to the unanimity rule. He cited the Amman summit which was not attended by five countries yet the conference still made fateful decisions that were later recognized by all Arab countries. He said that the reverse of this means capitulation to the plot and paralysis of the Arab potential.

'Arafat also discussed the initiative of Jordan's King Husayn and the PLO's position. He said: What King Husayn is propounding is a plan for political moves and not a political initiative. I am saying this so that matters are clarified and so that some people will not think that there is something proposed or that there is an initiative under discussion. He added: The PLO is still studying this plan and meetings are continuing between the Jordanian and Palestinian sides. We are also discussing this situation with all the Arab brothers on the basis that this is not a Palestinian or a Jordanian matter but something that concerns our Arab nation.

Replying to a question on whether President Mubarak, King Fahd, and King Husayn will separately carry a Palestinian message or concept to Washington, he said that this could possibly be done but the U.S. Administration does not deal with us except where its interests are concerned. It dealt with us to save its citizens twice in Beirut. It also dealt with us when we signed the cease-fire agreement in Beirut.

'Arafat warned that the United States deals with the Arabs on the basis that they do not have weight. He pointed out that the reason for this is that we are currently in a state of Arab impotence.

'Arafat dealt in the interview with the U.S.-Soviet rapprochement. He said that the PNC has declared its support for holding an international conference for peace in the Middle East. This conference cannot be held without the agreement of the two superpowers. (?The important) point is that the concerned Arab countries, Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and the PLO, have agreed to it. Only the United States and Israel have remained opposed, or more correctly the Americans alone have remained opposed, because Israel goes along with whatever decisions the United States makes.

Regarding the European role, 'Arafat reviewed the positions of some European countries and said that the Brussels summit was more progressive than the Venice summit; there was a retraction in the Dublin summit because of the stands of Britain and the FRG. What is new, he said, is the retraction in the French stand, but what is worse is the declaration by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher that she has accepted the chairmanship of the British-Israeli friendship society.

'Arafat praised Italy's active role and its constant move since assuming the EEC chairmanship to find a solution or an initiative to solve the crisis. 'Arafat said he believes that the reason for the retraction of some European countries from their stands on the Palestinian problem is the current Arab situation.

Regarding relations with the Soviets, 'Arafat said that Syria, the ally, is still more important to the Soviets than the Palestinians. I am a politician and can understand this. There is understanding between the two sides.

Khalil al-Wazir Holds Talks in Cairo 20 Jan

JN201740 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Khalil al-Wazir, also known as Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, discussed the current Arab situation and the Palestinian cause at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry today.

Taha al-Farnawani, head of the Palestine Department at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, said that he acquainted Abu Jihad with the efforts being exrted by the Egyptian Government to find a just solution to the Palestinian cause.

Reports said that the Palestinian official left Cairo today for Tunis to hold talks with Tunisian officials on the Palestinian cause.

Fatah Official on Relations With Syria, PLO

LD241118 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0810 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Jan (KUNA) — Salim al-Za'nun, member of the Fatah Central Committee and its representative in Kuwait and the Gulf, in a statement published here today, expressed his regret over the continuation of differences with Syria.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti paper *AL-WATAN*, he said: We have been extending our hand for more than 2 years to Syria and have asked the Soviet Union, Algeria, and the PDRY to mediate between us. He pointed out that the PLO chairman, Yasir 'Arafat, visited all these countries in order to end the crisis with Syria, beginning with Saudi Arabia and every Arab country.

In answer to a question regarding the Syrian regime's negative response to all these endeavors, he said: We have not heard a clear answer to this question. Sometimes we hear that the differences are personal between the Syrian president, Hafiz al-Asad, and Yasir 'Arafat, and other times we hear that the political line of the current PLO leadership aims at making the PLO submit and join the Camp David accords. He said that our relations with Algeria, which refused to host the Palestine National Council, have not been affected at all. The speaker of the Algerian People's Assembly, Rabih Bitat, received the chairman of the Palestine National Council, Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sayyih, a week ago. He added that Shaykh al-Sayyih informed him on the telephone last Friday that Algeria stands with the Palestine National Council, the Palestinian revolution, and the independent Palestinian decision.

Regarding relations between the Soviet Union and the PLO, Salim al-Za'nun said that last November and 3 days prior to the convening of the Palestine National Council in Amman, the Soviet Union advised us not to convene the Council and said that there was plenty of time, if we were to postpone the meeting, for more new efforts to be made which could at least ensure the attendance of the Democratic Alliance, which signed the Aden-Algiers agreement.

Al-Za'nun said that we differed with the Soviet Union and told them: We have prepared everything and as we see it we cannot go back on convening the 17th session of the Palestine National Council. But we told Algeria that in our view some parties of the Democratic Alliance — particularly the Democratic Front — are sincere and want to call for the postponement of the Council for a short period so that the Front can convince others in the Democratic Alliance — particularly the PFLP — to attend.

In answer to a question regarding the escalation of the Palestinian differences follewing the convening of the Palestine National Council — evidence of this is the fact that dialogue has been suspended between the Fatah Central Committee and the Democratic Alliance — Al-Za'nun said: First of all, dialogue between the parties of the Democratic Alliance and the Fatah movement has not been suspended. This dialogue was secret and is still going on along the same channels.

Al-Za'nun reaffirmed that the PLO still considers the Aden-Algiers agreement as a good basis for comprehensive dialogue, and said: When the DFLP agrees to return to the Palestine National Council and the PLO Executive Committee, the special body set up by the Palestine National Council, which comprises the council chairmanship and members of the Executive Committee, will meet within 24 hours to decide on the nomination of the assistant secretary general of the DFLP, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, or anyone else who is chosen by the DFLP as member of the Executive Committee.

Regarding rumors about differences between parties in the Democratic Alliance and Al-Sa'iqah, and the rumored attempts to find an alternative organization, Al-Za'nun said: We know that the great majority of the Al-Sa'iqah leadership refuses the alternative organization and refuses to convene a national council parallel to the 17th PNC session. As to the so-called opposition within the Fatah movement they have five divisions and there are strong differences between them.

USSR, Others Urge 'Arafat Not To Provoke Syria

GF231532 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 22 Jan 85 pp 1, 23

[Excerpts] *AL-QABAS* has learned that a special Soviet envoy has handed a message to Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, and to the Palestinian leaders who were in Tunis at the end of last week. The message contained a request for an end to the media campaign against Syria conducted by Yasir 'Arafat and other Palestinian leaders. The message stressed that provoking Syria in the current circumstances can only serve the Arab nation's enemies. It said that Syria has adopted a steadfast stand in the face of imperialist and Zionist plots in the region.

In the meantime, Mahmud 'Abbas, Fatah Central Committee member, said in Tunis yesterday that Palestinian national dialogue between Fatah and the three factions of the Democratic Alliance will begin in the next 2 weeks.

AL-QABAS has also learned that recently a number of mediation efforts have been made and advice given to the PLO. During his last visit to Algeria, 'Arafat was strongly criticized and advised not to begin again his recent railery directed against Syria. Algerian officials told 'Arafat that his recent campaign against Syria will hinder Algeria in its efforts to clear the way to lessen the tension between the PLO and Syria. In this regard, similar efforts have been made by Saudi Arabia, Morocco, and the PDRY.

PLO Radio Comments on Gromyko-Shultz Meeting

JN240838 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1625 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Political Editor's dispatch]

[Excerpts] With the beginning of 1985 many developments on the international level or in the region have taken place whose impact on the Palestinian cause and its future cannot be ignored. The important meeting between the U.S. and USSR foreign ministers on 7 January is one of these developments. An established fact in international policy is that any agreement or difference between the two superpowers will reflect on all parts of the world and their causes.

The only thing we know about this meeting is that there was an agreement on pursuing the dialogue. This dialogue may last many months before its contents are defined. Most probably, the Middle East issue and its essence, the Palestinian cause, will not be one of the priority topics of this dialogue. However, one wonders whether the meeting between the Washington and Moscow foreign ministers is not the first step toward a stage of detente between the two superpowers. If this is so, then Arab efforts in general, and Palestinian efforts in particular, must focus on formulating an Arab and Palestinian stand that will place our cause on the international top priority list.

It goes without saying that the Arab state of affairs and its impact on the Palestinian cause in the past stage have not been the ideal image through which we can sell our cause to the world. On the contrary, it is certain that Arab fragmentation and the negative impact it has had on the Palestinian arena have relegated Arab causes to second place in light of big international developments. Therefore, at the threshold of the forthcoming stage in international relations, great Arab and Palestinian efforts must be exerted to formulate an Arab and Palestinian stand that will enjoy a minumum level of unity and influence. We regret to say that so far we do not feel that there is any Arab initiative which has sufficient momentum and force to improve the Arab image.

If Arabs and the Palestinians want to confront Israel's steps, they must show the world that they have a united stand and a united policy which reaffirm that separate solutions will not conceal the true nature of the conflict, that of the Palestinian cause.

PLO Radio on Arabs Hostile to PLO Representation

JN240645 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1550 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Oh brothers, many Arabs have refused for many years to deal with any independent Palestinian political body on the pretext that no single body can represent all the Palestinian people. There is much evidence in contemporary Arab history that confirms this fact. Some Arab regimes want to weaken, contain, or destroy that body so that the Palestinian people's loyalty be divided between this or that regime.

We say that the state of affairs remains as it was before. The Syrian regime, which for more than a year has been leading the ugliest liquidatory onslaught against the PLO, continues to repeat its methods and claims that the PLO and its legitimate leadership do not represent the Palestinian people. It maintains that the representatives of the Palestinian people are those who were described by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on more than one occasion as the revolutionary groups and forces that flourish under his protection and whose offices are working according to his instructions. These groups used to voice support for that regime and its policy and to beat the drums of the Syrian media.

President al-Asad's announcement that the PLO does not represent its Palestinian people is a clear repetition of Ronald Reagan's statement in 1982 following the PLO forces' departure from Beirut when he called on the Arab countries to withdraw their recognition of the PLO because, as he put it, it does not represent the Palestinians. Other people allege that the PLO does not represent all the Palestinian people, only a portion of them. However, these allegations [words indistinct] are trying to cast doubt on the PLO's representation of the Palestinian people who, through their great struggle and sacrifice, have chosen the PLO as their sole legitimate representative.

Those who are trying to achieve the impossible are aware in one way or another that their attempts are only political games which have many clearly exposed political objectives that have nothing to do with the issue of representation. Moreover, these allegations are not the only base for attacking the PLO. There are many contradictory allegations. The reason for the existence of such allegations is the strength and greatness of Palestinian steadfastness, the strength of Palestinian cohesion, and the unity of Palestinian ranks around the PLO. How can these aggressive plans against our people, revolution, and cause be peddled?

The time of trusteeship has ended, and our march has overcome liquidatory plans since it embodies its will and independent decisionmaking. Our revolution will achieve our people's great objectives of liberation, progress, and the establishment of an independent state. It will certainly achieve victory.

Arab League Team Urges Strict Trade Boycott

JN240900 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 24 Jan 85 p 3

[Text] Amman — An Arab League working team meeting in Amman Wednesday called for a strict and effective enforcement of Arab measures to boycott Israeli goods and products and also prepared recommendations to counter the proposed United States-Israeli free trade zone. Secretary general of the Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for the Support of Steadfastness in the Occupied Arab Lands and member of the Arab League working team, Dr. Fu'ad Bsaysu said that the team has drawn up a number of recommendations to be referred to the Arab Economic and Social Council, scheduled to hold meetings at ministerial level in March.

The working team, who concluded their meetings Wednesday, drew up their suggestions after studying the current situation and assessing the most effective and efficient means of implementing boycott measures against Israeli products.

Regarding the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation, the projected U.S.-Israeli free trade zone and the support of the steadfastness of Arab occupied citizens within the framework of boycott practices; the team recommended the following: — That all Arab states have the right to use any available means of boycott, including economic measures, in order to counter any agreement between any country and the American-Israeli free trade zone. — The listing and boycotting of all goods exported by Israel and resembling American goods to ensure that these products do not leak into the Arab World through the U.S.-Israeli zone. — To call on all Arab states to adopt an independent economic policy, especially for grain and basic food commodities, which are presently imported from the U.S., and that an Arab cooperation program to this effect be implemented soon. — Accepting that, in the long run, confronting such agreements between Israel and Western countries depends on the realisation of Arab efforts towards Arab economic self-sufficiency, and that this will be the best method of ensuring Arab independence in the economic field. — The strict enforcement of Arab boycott regulations regarding the free trade zones which state that a certificate of origin must include a statement certifying that the goods do not contain any parts produced or made in Israel. — The listing of alternative sources for the purchase of basic commodities as substitutes for the U.S. market if an agreement on the free trade zone is signed. — Banning the import of goods which are likely to have had any Israeli participation in their production in any form. — Launching media campaign at the popular level to support official efforts for confronting the consequences of setting up the projected free trade zone between the U.S. and Israel. — Applying these recommendations to West European countries if they issue resolutions against the Arab boycott of Israel.

The committee also stated that Arab boycott measures applied by the Jordanian Government on the movement of agricultural and industrial goods from the West Bank and Gaza Strip to Arab countries are sound procedures. The committee also said that these measures guarantee that Israeli goods will not be allowed into Arab markets.

Regarding the supporting of the steadfastness of Arab citizens, Dr Bsaysu said that it has agreed to encourage the marketing of industrial and agricultural products from the West Bank, especially citrus fruits. The committee said this is very important for supporting national steadfastness in the occupied Arab territories.

These products, he added, face arbitrary restrictions from Israel and competition from imported products from Europe. The team also recommended that Arab countries give priority to the importation of products from the occupied territories, especially citrus. The team also recommended that a portion of the available funds for supporting steadfastness be allocated to support agricultural products in the occupied Arab territories. He also added that the team called for setting up a special committee for supporting the marketing of the occupied territories' products in the Arab and foreign markets and to compensate the farmers for any losses.

The team also submitted a number of proposals which aim to develop work in Arab boycott departments and to promote awareness of the boycott and the world trends which support Israel and weaken Arab boycotts, he said. Dr. Bsaysu called on Arab countries to deal with the resolutions regarding support of steadfastness in the very serious manner which they deserve.

Heading the work team in the several-day meeting was the Arab League assistant secretary general for economic affairs, Dr 'Abd al-Hasan Zalzalah.

OPECNA: OPEC Denies Cut in Marker Crude Price

LD231529 Vienna OPECNA in English 1432 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Vienna, 23 Jan 85 (OPECNA) — OPEC today strongly denied reports alleging that the Riyadh meeting on price differentials had recommended a price reduction of its marker crude.

Dr Fadhil al-Chalabi, OPEC deputy secretary general, described as "totally untrue" some press reports that the OPEC experts' meeting at the weekend in Saudi Arabia had agreed to reduce the 29 dollar per barrel price of Arabian light by 2.50 dollars.

Al-Chalabi, who participated in the two-day meeting, said at no time was the price of the marker crude discussed. "The committee devoted its attention exclusively to the problems of price differentials between the various OPEC crudes, especially to the price differences between the African extra light crudes and the heavy crudes produced in the Gulf," Al-Chalabi stressed.

He added that the report on this issue made by the experts would be reviewed by the full ministerial committee on differentials which meets in Geneva on Sunday [27 January].

Seven OPEC member countries set on the committee on differentials: Algeria, Kuwait, Nigeria, Qatar, Libya, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Differentials' Issue Unresolved After Riyadh Talks

LD231832 Kuwait KUNA in English 1710 GMT 23 Jan 85

[By D. Nash]

[Text] London, Jan 23 (KUNA) — Last Sunday's meeting in Riyadh of OPEC experts, chaired by Saudi Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, did not solve the major issue of price differentials among the different OPEC crudes, according to informed sources here Wednesday.

The sources, who were close to the participants at that meeting, said that key members of the organization were still far apart on the question. Discussions would continue up to and during the meeting of OPEC oil ministers due to open next Monday in Geneva, they added.

The sources claimed that Nigeria was pressing for a production [as received] to 27.50 dollars in the OPEC reference price, Saudi light, which currently set at 29 dollars a barrel. This was because the African state wanted to price its crude at 28 dollars, leaving a small differential with Saudi light to take into account its better quality. Lagos needed the lower price so that it could compete with North Sea crudes which were similar in quality, the sources explained.

Saudi Arabia, however, would be unwilling to contemplate a cut in OPEC's marker to less than 28 dollars a barrel, and at the same time, would not agree to a rise in heavy crude prices to narrow the differential further, the sources went on. "Arab heavy" is currently set at 26.50 dollars a barrel.

The sources discounted reports that OPEC might cut as much as 2.50 dollars off its benchmark price, thereby reducing it to the same level as currently charged for the heavy oils.

Some reports have also circulated to the effect that OPEC might substitute Arab heavy for Arab light as its reference crude.

At least two member states, Iran and Algeria, were holding out for absolutely no cut in OPEC's 29 dollar market price, the sources pointed out. They argued that even a nominal reduction in prices would result in a proportionately large loss in revenues given the present slackness in the world oil market.

Nigeria, Saudi Arabia To Submit Committee Report

AB232209 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Nigeria and Saudi Arabia are to prepare a report on the outcome of the 2-day meeting of OPEC experts in Riyadh. A Western Europe correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA reports that the committee has agreed on a mutual subject to be discussed at another meeting on Sunday.

The Saudi Oil minister, Shayk Zaki Yamani, who presided, was quoted as saying that substantial progress had been made. Professor David-West of Nigeria was also reported as saying that he was optimistic that there would be a final recommendation satisfactory to the country.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Finance Ministers Conclude Meeting in Kuwait

LD232107 Kuwait KUNA in English 1800 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 23 (KUNA) — Finance ministers of the six-state GCC or their representatives, left here Wednesday after taking part in meetings of the Gulf Investment Organization's board of directors.

The finance ministers of Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain and the delegates of Oman and Qatar were seen off at the airport by Oil and Finance Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-'Adhbi al-Sabah.

UAE State Minister for Financial and Industrial Affairs Ahmad al-Ta'ir, who chaired the meeting, told KUNA prior to his departure that the board approved its future plan for investing in the member states who hold equal shares in the 2.5 billion dollars this year in joint petrochemical, industrial and livestock projects. He said the directors selected a number of limited schemes which will be jointly held with the private sector with a view of studying them as a prelude to execution.

The board, the UAE official said, also approved the organization's 1985 operational budget which amounts to 14 million dollars. Al-Ta'ir said the organization's total operations since its founding reaching 480 million dollars. Al-Ta'ir noted that endorsed final accounts of profits and losses for the 1984 fiscal year. [sentence as received]

The board undertakes joint investment activities inside and outside the GCC states with a view of bolstering economic integration between GCC members and diversifying their economies.

KUWAIT

AL-ANBA' Carries Article by USSR Staff Journalist

GF231902 [Editorial report] Kuwait *AL-ANBA'* in Arabic on 22 January 1985 on page 23 carries a 1000-word article by Aleksandr Krasnov, editor-in-chief of the department of Middle East and Africa at the NOVOSTI NEWS AGENCY and an expert on Arab and Middle Eastern affairs.

The paper says that Aleksandr Krasnov recently joined the staff of *AL-ANBA'* and that this article is his first to be published. The article is entitled "In the Name of The Arab Nation's Future." It refers to former Egyptian President Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir and his nationalism and quotes some of his statements on Arab unity. It also refers to the Arab differences and says that these differences bolster the hostile policy of the Arabs' enemies. He writes that the official military alliance between Washington and Tel Aviv is not only directed against the Arab countries that are called radicals by the West, but also against moderate countries, and that this alliance should be confronted through a unified front by the Arab countries.

Belgian Crown Prince, Delegation Pay Visit

LD231904 Kuwait KUNA in English 1700 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 23 (KUNA) — A ranking Belgian team headed by Crown Prince Albert arrived here Wednesday from the UAE within the framework of an Arab Gulf tour aimed at boosting trade and economic cooperation between Belgium and the region. The guests were received on arrival by Minister of Commerce and Industry Jasim Khalid al-Marzuq.

The powerful 44-member team groups the Secretary of State for Foreign Commerce Andre Kempiniaire. [sentence as received]

Official Commerce Ministry sources told KUNA that Prince Albert will meet with a number of Kuwaiti officials topped by H.H. the amir and H.H. the crown prince and premier.

They added that the Belgian delegation will hold a series of meetings with Oil and Finance Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-'Adhbi, President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Saqr and Governor of the Central Bank 'Abd al-Wahab al-Tammar.

The sources noted that the Belgian team's four-day official stay here targets expanding trade exchange between Kuwait and Brussels and bolstering economic cooperation. The Belgian delegation is expected to leave for Doha at the conclusion of its Kuwait visit.

Belgian delegates told KUNA Abu Dhabi correspondent before departure for Kuwait, that the team's UAE visit has achieved its required targets in fostering bilateral cooperation in all commerical and economic fields. Belgium and the UAE signed during the visit an agreement for economic, commercial and technical cooperation that was initially signed between the two parties in May last year in Brussels. The two capitals agreed on the formation of a joint committee to upgrade cooperation in economic spheres and supervise implementation of the economic agreement.

Bulgarian Minister Interviewed on Cooperation

GF231518 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 22 Jan 85 p 3

[Report on interview with Pando Vanchev, Bulgarian communications minister, by *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* correspondent Ahmad Khallaf in Kuwait — no date given]

[Excerpts] The Bulgarian communications minister said: There were discussions yesterday with the [Kuwaiti] communications minister on numerous joint issues in the communications sector. For instance, Bulgaria will participate in the modern telephone network in fraternal Kuwait, and also the sea-cable ("Metrabatel"), scheduled to be set up in the near future, a cable linking Australia with Western Europe, and connecting Karachi, Kuwait, Iraq, Turkey, and Bulgaria.

We also discussed the automatic direct telephone line between Kuwait and Bulgaria, a great benefit toward establishing stronger ties between the two fraternal peoples and consolidating trade and tourist relations between the two countries.

We also intend to propose training seminars for Kuwaitis to be held either in Kuwait or Bulgaria. This is a fruitful opportunity for joint Arab [-Bulgarian] cooperation on a high level of experience and competence between the two countries.

It is worth noting that 1770 km of telephone cables were laid between Kuwait and Bulgaria in the period 1979-1983. Three hundred and ten km were laid in 1984.

Regarding first class mail between Kuwait and Bulgaria, the Bulgarian Minister, Pando Vanchev, emphasized that this matter will be discussed in the near future.

Present circumstances do not permit this because there are no daily flights between Bulgaria and Kuwait.

Yemeni Foreign Minister Arrives From Tripoli

LD232108 Kuwait KUNA in English 1805 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 23 (KUNA) — Foreign Minister of People's Democratic Republic of Yemen Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali arrives here Wednesday from Tripoli, Libya on his way back home. Dr al-Dali is scheduled to continue his travel to Aden on Friday morning.

The Yemeni chief diplomat was received on arrival by head of the envoys affairs at the Foreign Ministry Hamad al-'Ubaydi and charge d'affaires at the South Yemeni Embassy here.

Iraqi Health Minister on Treatment of POWs

GF231222 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 22 Jan 85 p 4

[Text] Kuwait and Iraq cooperated fully in all health fields, Iraq's Health Minister Dr Sadiq Hamid 'Allush, said in Kuwait yesterday.

Speaking to reporters at the residence of Iraq's ambassador to Kuwait, 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Umar Ghani, the health minister condemned Iran for its treatment of war prisoners, adding that the treatment violated "all international laws".

Dr 'Allush said he was visiting Kuwait to "strengthen" bilateral relations.

From Kuwait he was to go on to Qatar, to attend the meeting of Gulf health ministers. He is to present a paper on the treatment of Iraqi prisoners by Iran.

He said that in contrast to Iran's behaviour, Iraq was making all arrangements for the welfare of Iranian war prisoners. There was a hospital for them at Maysan and a school for young Iranian prisoners. Iraq was providing "good treatment" to Iranian prisoners at the time Iraqi prisoners were being killed in Iran, he said.

An international committee that visited Iraq was "surprised at the excellent treatment" given to Iranian prisoners, he said. Dr 'Allush said that Iraqi soldiers at the battle fronts were in the best of health.

OMAN

MENA: Sultan Discusses Egyptian Ties, Arab Issues

NC192244 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2130 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 19 Jan (MENA) — Sultan of Oman Qabus ibn Sa'id has declared that Egypt's stands on the issue of peace are not in its interest alone but also in the interest of the entire Arab nation, and this is why the Sultanate of Oman has supported Egypt in all its stands. In an interview to be published by the newspaper *AL-AHRAM* Sunday, Sultan Qabus said he plans to visit Egypt in April.

The text of the interview is as follows:

Question: When will we see Your Majesty in Egypt, and when will you meet with President Mubarak and the Egyptian people in Cairo?

Sultan Qabus: I will visit Egypt in April, God willing. I still do not know whether my visit will be official or private. What matters is that I will visit Egypt in April.

Question: The Egyptians have not forgotten your firm and strong stand from the outset in support of Egypt and against the attempts to isolate it. Now that your outlook and farsightedness has been borne out, particularly as there are no alternatives to the peace option chosen by Egypt, what were the factors that governed your position toward Egypt, and are those factors still valid today?

Sultan Qabus: Yes, these factors remain valid. We think that fraternal Egypt adopted its positions through conviction and perceptiveness, and after study. These positions were certainly for the good of the Egyptian people and the Arab nation. There is no doubt in our minds that Egypt has not forgotten the interests of the Arab nation and has not allowed its own interests to overshadow those of the nation. It has been proven that it is possible, through negotiations and peaceful means, for parties with differences to reach solutions without resorting to war, a waste of lives and money. Hence, our position has been to support Egypt in all its stands. We maintain this position and will continue to do so, God willing.

Question: Your Majesty, there is constant talk about the importance of restoring normal relations among the Arab peoples. However, it is only talk, regrettably. Given the political reality, has the time has come for the Arab states to make a positive move to achieve this objective; how can this be done?

Sultan Qabus: Frankly, I think that all of the Arab states — barring two or three — know very well that the position they have taken toward Egypt is wrong. For this reason, they have dealt with Egypt and the Egyptian people on more than one level and without formality. Just as the Arab nation cannot dispense with Egypt, Egypt cannot dispense with its brothers in the Arab nation. What some say about the need for a collective Arab decision is, in my opinion, an attempt to evade the issue and an excuse, and does not get at the truth of the matter. The truth is that there is fear that certain parties may cause some trouble and

bring difficulty to the Arab states. The fact is that there is a lack of necessary courage to make a decision. However, now that Jordan has made its bold decision, which I expected for some time, this cycle has been broken and no longer has any meaning.

Question: Differences continue to dominate the Arab arena. The Arab states are paying dearly for these differences, which are exhausting their resources. This has led to the Arab nation's retreat in the face of the world. Is there a way out of this sad and dramatic situation, in your opinion?

Sultan Qabus: The solution is in the hands of the Arab nation. I have always said that we, or some of us in the Arab world, try to put the blame for our tragedies and problems on others. While it might be true that certain quarters outside the Arab world are preparing traps for us, the question is why we always fall into them, instead of avoiding them. The solution is in the hands of the Arab nation, as I said, and it lies in our unity and our avoidance of the traps prepared for us. However, regrettably, some see a way of promoting their own interests in these tragedies, just as the proverb says: The calamities of one nation benefits another. I do not want to be specific, but I must say frankly that it is our own fault.

Question: Your Majesty, what do you see as the best way to use the rapprochement between Jordan and the Palestinians to break the deadlock in the search for peace? Do you agree that all Arabs should take part in efforts to reach this goal, and that it is not enough for Egypt alone to join Jordan and the Palestinians in the pursuit of such a goal?

Sultan Qabus: I expressed my opinion on this issue long ago. I believe that, even from the legal point of view, the territories that were under Jordanian administration must first return to Jordan. Jordan and the Palestinians could then work out a formula for coexistence -- confederal, non-confederal, or an independent state. Only they can decide what is best for them. As for the Arab world, we would never get anything done if we had to wait for Arab unanimity. We would be deceiving ourselves. We have, while waiting for Arab unanimity, lost land and wasted a number of opportunities. Unanimity is currently impossible. That is why the Palestinians and Jordanians should look after their own interests, decide what they want, and tell the Arab world: This is what we are going to do. At that point, it would be up to the Arabs to chose whether to support them or not. I think they would support them. However, if we kept waiting for Arab unanimity, we would lose whatever land and opportunities remain.

Question: With Reagan starting his second presidential term, what can the Arabs do to make Washington participate more fully in efforts to achieve a comprehensive settlement? Also, what sort of coordination would you suggest to make use of the European position, particularly now that Italy, current EC chairman, is trying to take a new approach toward the settlement?

Sultan Qabus: As for the United States, the only thing that would convince the Americans to take a serious stand on the issue would be a clear Jordanian-Palestinian position. In the absence of such a position, we have no right to ask the United States to work miracles. Were Egypt, Jordan, and the Palestinians to adopt a clear and unified position, Reagan and his administration would have an incentive to take a more positive approach to the issue. This will be difficult to achieve as long as we are divided and lack a unified stand or plan. I think this is a good time to act, as President Reagan will not be running for office again and may have the courage and conviction to support the issue.

We must unite, and not wait for others to solve our problems while we stand idly by. Is it not an illusion to think that others should solve our problems? Isn't it a symptom of impotence or some sort of excuse?

In this regard, I would again applaud -- and not merely by way of compliment -- the position Egypt has assumed from the beginning. Egypt has made efforts to solve its problems on its own, and has retrieved its land. Only a prejudiced or blind person could blame Egypt for what it did.

Turning from the U.S. to the European position, I believe that the European countries will not oppose U.S. policy. This fact we must fully understand. The Western countries discuss the issue in general terms, but there has been no real European move. It is mainly lip service and nothing more.

Question: Your Majesty, would you kindly and clearly give us your frank opinion about the obstacles facing joint Arab action? These obstacles have stripped the Arab world of most of the power and influence it enjoyed some time ago, and the rest of the world regards them as endemic.

Sultan Qabus: The most serious obstacle, as I said before, is that some Arabs oppose joint action. One look around is enough to tell us who opposes joint action. In addition, how could such action take place with all the slogans and one-upmanship going on? I refer to the Progressive Movement, the Rejection Front, the Steadfastness Front, the neorejectionism, the neosteadfastness, and so on.

These divisions, like a thorn in the Arab side, are hampering the efficacy of joint Arab action. Another point is that there are those among us who want to please everyone at the same time and end up not taking a clear-cut position. This, in my opinion, is a destructive approach. To wind up supporting those who are right and those who are wrong at the same time is destructive, not constructive.

Question: The Gulf war has entered its 5th year, with no early solution in sight. What do you see as a suitable Arab formula for efforts to end this war, and what should the Gulf states' role be in support of Iraq? I do not mean simply meetings held by the GCC, particularly as this war affects the interests of all of the Arab Gulf peoples, and not those of Iraq alone.

Sultan Qabus: We in the area must be realistic, and we should not do anything that will have future negative effects on us. However, we must seek to stop this war and to achieve reconciliation between the warring parties. Moreover, we must not lean further toward any one party in the war itself. We must help the Iraqi people to resolve this crisis and to reach a solution acceptable to them. At the same time, we must seek to convince our neighbors in Iran that their rights can be attained by legitimate

and peaceful means. As for things to which they have no right, they must consider them rationally and objectively and avoid any further calamities from this war, which is affecting two Muslim peoples.

So, we must help both sides to end the war, but the question is: Will we really be able to do anything in this respect? We cannot answer this question except by exerting efforts through direct dialogue with both sides and with the parties and organizations that can help, led by the ICO and those countries outside the area that have an interest in ending the war. In the final analysis, the matter is in the hands of our brothers in Iraq and our neighbors in Iran. However, our brothers in Iraq have repeatedly announced their readiness to end the fighting, and it only remains for our brothers in Iran to be convinced of this. Such a thing is not impossible to God.

Question: What is Your Majesty's assessment of the extent of the danger threatening the Strait of Hormuz, particularly now following the outbreak of tanker war between Iran and Iraq; what would Oman's position be in the event that the strait is closed, and what countries would cooperate with Oman to avoid this?

Sultan Qabus: An internationally vital waterway like the Strait of Hormuz is always in danger, directly or indirectly. The direct danger is that a war may break out in the area of the strait, resulting in its closure. The indirect danger is that the strait may be exposed to sabotage by unknown subversive parties, which, regrettably, are found in many parts of the world. As for the direct danger — the closure of the strait because of war — there is no plan to do this unless matters reach a hopeless state. Even our neighbors in Iran have announced that they have no plan to close the Gulf unless they are in a hopeless situation, such as being rendered unable to export oil. There remains the basic danger, however: What if some hired mercenaries carry out some action, as happened in the Red Sea?

Should this happen, the GCC would have to meet to discuss how to confront it. Oman would not hold a separate position on such an action; there would have to be a collective stance. We would have to see if we could deal with the situation ourselves in the GCC, and if not, we would have to obtain the help of friends to handle developments. Naturally, this would depend upon the actual situation.

Question: International terrorism was the most significant event for the past year in many states, including Kuwait, India, and Britain. How can the Arab states take a firm stand against this terrorism, and how can we cooperate with the world's states in confronting it?

Sultan Qabus: We have thought a great deal about this subject. We in this area have discussed the matter extensively and have decided that the best thing is to maintain contact with other countries and to reach an understanding with them in this regard. It is difficult to ask these states officially to take any specific measures. Generally speaking, it is better to deal with such cases on a bilateral basis, coolly and secretly.

Question: Your Majesty, what dangers are threatening the Gulf area now? Is it the Iraqi-Iranian war alone? Is it the great powers' attempts to induce polarization? Or are there other dangers?

Sultan Qabus: The Iraqi-Iranian war will constitutes a true danger to the peoples of the area if it continues and expands. We hope that it will not do so in the foreseeable future. But this region must always be on guard against subversion, which is at the top of the list of dangers threatening it. The rancorous saboteurs who engage in subversion are many, and we must always be alert. As for the danger of polarization, we must do our utmost to avoid a superpower conflict in this area, which would threaten world peace. Although there have been times when we felt the tension between the two superpowers, I think that detente prevails at the moment. We hope that this detente will serve not only the two superpowers, but the entire world.

Question: Oman has maintained the same rate of development and construction as in past years, despite the economic conditions prevailing in the area's states and the world's economic stagnation. What factors, in Your Majesty's opinion, have helped to sustain this stability in Oman's development policy?

Sultan Qabus: We always try to establish priorities when we draft our development plan or our budget. We try to leave out that which is not important and does not contribute to the good of the people and country. Therefore, we have focused on meeting certain needs in the government and services sectors, while encouraging the private sector and promoting agriculture, industry, and investment in the areas of fishing, minerals, and others. We have seen that this course is successful. Almighty God has facilitated our affairs. Oil production has increased a little, to cover the major part of our budget deficit. There is no state that has no budget deficit. Our deficit, thank God, has been covered, making it possible for us to continue our development plans without delay. The policy of avoiding complete dependence on oil revenues has begun to bear fruit. This is a good start, thank God. The dollar remains strong, and the Omani riyal is linked to the dollar and derives its strength from it. Therefore, the Omani riyal is now strong, and this has greatly facilitated our importation of goods and our continued development, thanks be to God.

Question: Your Majesty, a final question. Are you satisfied with Oman's relations with Egypt, or do you think they require further steps to strengthen them?

Sultan Qabus: I am satisfied, thank God, with the good and close relations between Oman and Egypt, but I always aspire to improvement. The existing relations between our two governments are more than excellent. But we seek increased interrelationships between the Omani and Egyptian peoples and the consolidation of the ties between them. We will always move along this course, God willing.

SAUDI ARABIA

Gambian President Arrives on 4-Day Visit

LD241145 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1118 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Jeddah, 24 Jan (SPA) — His Excellency President Dawda Jawara of Gambia, chairman of the Islamic Good Offices

Commission, arrived in Jeddah this afternoon on a 4-day visit to the Kingdom during which he will perform the rites of minor pilgrimate.

The Gambian president is visiting a number of Arab states in the context of efforts by the Islamic Good Offices Commission to find a solution to the Iraq-Iran war.

Saudi Paper Views U.S.-Soviet Dialogue on Mideast

PM221858 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 19 Jan 85 p 3

[Political editor "News Analysis" column: "Washington-Moscow: A New 'Magic Wand' for the Middle East!"]

[Text] Have the United States and the Soviet Union decided to defuse the situation in the Middle East and declare a truce in the cold war between them in the area?

Preliminary indications from Washington's announcement regarding its intention to hold a dialogue with Moscow on the Middle East problem could, at first glance, lead to such a belief. But a deeper look into the conflict between the two superpowers in areas of worldtension, most important of which is the Middle East, does not suggest at all that the new dialogue could lead to positive and effective results for settling the Middle East crisis and ending the Arab-Israeli conflict. The reasons are as follows:

First: While Washington has revealed its agreement with Moscow to initiate a dialogue, it has stated through its senior official spokesmen that the dialogue will not be exactly in the form of negotiations but rather a mere exchange of views aimed at expanding the scope of the talks, which began recently in Geneva regarding strategic arms limitations, to include areas of regional tension in the world; in other words "to try to agree on a new division of roles and the partitioning of spheres of influence."

Second: Washington has emphasized that there is no change in U.S. Middle East policy. In other words, Washington is determined to continue its backing for the failed aggressive Israeli policy in the area and its unlimited support for Israel's settlement and expansionist activities in the occupied Arab territories.

Third: The U.S. rejects the Soviet proposal, which is accepted by Jordan, the PLO, Syria, Egypt and all the parties concerned with the crisis with the exception of Israel, to hold an international conference on peace in the Middle East and its insistence on the formula of direct bilateral negotiations which Israel is demanding and the Arabs are rejecting because of their opposition to any unilateral settlement.

Fourth: Moscow refuses to link the U.S.-Soviet dialogue for a settlement in the Middle East to holding a similar dialogue on the presence of Soviet forces in Afghanistan. It considers the Afghanistan question separate from all the issues that Washington wants to raise in the dialgue between the two superpowers over regional crises in the world.

For these and many other reasons observers can only wait and see in the midst of an atmosphere of pessimism and the lack of solutions to all these problems resulting from the magic wand of dialogue between the two superpowers on the Middle East.

Israeli Withdrawal Decision 'Positive' Sign

PM231340 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 16 Jan 85 p 2

[Jasir 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jasir article: "Israel's Decision To Withdraw From Lebanon Marks a New Phase in the Arab-Zionist Conflict"]

[Excerpts] The announcement by the government of the Zionist enemy of a plan for a phased withdrawal of its military forces from Lebanon came as a surprise to no one. It was preceded by continuous Israeli meetings and discussions on withdrawal plans. The Lebanese Government's insistence at the Al-Naqurah talks on a timetable for withdrawal and the mounting pressure of the Lebanese national resistance were two factors which speeded up the decision.

From an Arab viewpoint the Israeli decision is considered important and positive. Unless we are exaggerating, it is considered to be the most important Israeli concession imposed by the Arabs on Israel since the October 1973 war. Furthermore, it carries a number of practical and theoretical indications which could form a basis for Arab action against Israel. If well exploited, that basis could herald a new era in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

To underline the significance of that decision suffice it to say that it was an inevitable result of the Lebanese people's struggle and their battle of steadfastness and liberation in the south. They were the real side which effectively imposed that decision on Israel.

UAE

Belgian Crown Prince Departs for Kuwait

GF231444 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1415 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 Jan (WAKH) — Belgian Crown Prince Albert left Abu Dhabi for Kuwait today following a 5-day visit to the UAE. During his visit, Prince Albert held talks with the senior UAE officials on bilateral relations, particularly in the economic field.

In a statement before his departure, Prince Albert expressed his country's readiness to meet all the requirements necessary for agricultural and industrial development in the UAE and to supply it with advanced technology in order to serve their joint interests. He was seen off by Sayf al-Jarwan, UAE minister of economy and trade, and a number of officials.

Poland Offers Postgraduate Scholarships

GF231456 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 23 Jan 85 p 20

[Text] The Polish Government has offered a number of postgraduate scholarships to UAE students in the fields of astronomy,

physics, mathematics, philosophy, sociology, economic sciences, history, and Polish language and culture.

A message from UNESCO to the UAE Education Ministry said that students who have completed a university degree and who know French, English, German, Russian, or Polish are eligible to apply for the scholarships. The Polish Government will provide free housing, food, educational fees, free medical treatment, and monthly bursaries.

UNESCO has set 15 March as the closing date for receiving applications. The duration of study is 12 months, beginning either on 1 October 1985 or on 15 February 1986.

PDRY

IRNA: Sheykh Ol-Eslam Arrives for Talks

LD220934 Tehran IRNA in English 0811 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Tehran, Jan 22, IRNA — Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam arrived in Aden, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Monday evening.

Sheykh ol-Eslam had earlier visited Syria, Libya, and Algeria and had held talks with officials of those countries to coordinate their campaign against imperialism and Zionism. He is scheduled to hold talks with officials of the PDRY in this respect.

Meets With YSP Official

LD221901 Tehran IRNA in English 1725 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Tehran, Jan 22, IRNA — The Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam met 'Abd al- Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, South Yemenese Socialist Party's Politburo member and secretary of the Central Committee for Foreign Relations in Aden Tuesday. A message from Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akhbar Velayati was presented to the Yemenese official. Velayati's message was handed over to 'Abd al-Qadir because the South Yemenese foreign affairs minister, 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, is currently visiting Libya.

Sheykh ol-Eslam arrived in Aden Tuesday morning in the continuation of his tour of several Arab countries.

At this meeting, Sheykh ol-Eslam discussed issues related to mutual relations and also the outcome of his visit to Libya, Algeria and Syria. Other issues raised in the meeting included plots of the world arrogance against Islamic countries as well as the Zionist regime's airlifting of Ethiopian Jews in coordination with the Sudanese Government. Both sides stressed the need for greater coordination of efforts among Islamic and progressive countries of the region to encounter these plots.

They also expressed the hope that relations among regional countries campaigning against imperialism would expand further.

Received by Head of State

GF231527 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad today received at the secretary [as heard] of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, Brother Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iranian deputy foreign minister. During the meeting they reviewed bilateral relations, the current situation in the region, and a number of issues of mutual concern. The meeting was attended by Brother Muhammad 'Ali 'Inayah, deputy foreign minister, and Hasan Aminian, the Iranian ambassador in Aden.

The Iranian deputy foreign minister and the delegation accompanying him left Aden this evening. He was seen off at the airport by Deputy Foreign Minister Brother Muhammad 'Ali 'Inayah.

AL-AHALI Cites AFP on Sokolov Visit

PM231715 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 16 Jan 85 p 1

[Unattributed Report: "The Soviet Defense Minister in Cairo Soon"]

[Text] AFP says that Soviet Defense Minister Sergey Sokolov will visit Egypt end of January in the course of a tour he will make of a number of Middle Eastern countries.

Mubarak Visits Aswan for Inspection Tour

NC231258 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Aswan, 23 Jan (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has arrived in Aswan on a visit of several hours during which he will tour a number of production sites in the governorate.

Addresses Aswan Rally

NC232014 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1840 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Aswan, 23 Jan (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak affirmed that democracy has been developing in Egypt since the principles of the July 1952 revolution were proclaimed, adding that democracy should be applied honestly and sincerely. This is the golden era of democracy, the president told a rally at the conference hall in the Aswan Governorate House.

Following the rally, Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said that President Mubarak began by saying: As usual, I will speak to you in all sincerity about our foreign and domestic politics and current issues. The president then went on to include in his speech answers to several questions that were handed to him before the rally began.

Minister al-Sharif said that President Mubarak told the rally that democracy has been developing in Egypt ever since it was included among the principles of the July Revolution. Democracy, the sixth of these principles, was espoused by President Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir. President Anwar al-Sadat also played a prominent role in enhancing democracy, opting for a multiparty system and giving Egypt its constitution. My role, Mubarak said, is to continue to uphold the sixth principle of the revolution, in the earnest belief that democracy should be more firmly entrenched. Democracy, supported by freedom of thought and of the press, should always prevail, unhampered by prejudice.

President Mubarak said that democracy, which means government by and for the people, is living in its golden age today. We are absolutely eager to have an honest and unsullied democratic process. This is the way to pay homage to our principles, to establish self-respect, and to set the rule and provide an example for posterity.

The president, Minister al-Sharif said, then moved on to the issue of production in Egyptian villages. Mubarak said: I want the villages of Aswan to act as an example of the productive village. The Egyptian village, a source of culture, should again prosper by concentrating on the value of production — a social value that we have always associated with the village. Safwat al-Sharif said that President Mubarak told the popular rally that the High Dam construction was and is the symbol of how Egypt meets a national challenge. Through the years, the High Dam has played its role by protecting Egypt against drought and famine. Our people are aware of the suffering produced in other countries by drought; we must be thankful to God.

The information minister added that President Mubarak said: I stand with all of Egypt's sons, with the broadest sectors of the people, who needs service and care; at the same time, we stand with honest and capable people. From this forum, I tell them that I stand with every Egyptian, rich or poor. I stand with the poor, who are seeking to ease their suffering and to live a better life; and with the honest, capable, and rich citizen, who seeks to invest his funds for the welfare of his compatriots.

The information minister added: President Mubarak said that capable citizens and investors must enjoy security and stability, and realize that opportunity is available to them and that their country and people are more deserving than others. They must know that it is an honor for Egypt and Egyptians that their investors are also Egyptians. We want every capitalist to rest assured, as long as he works honestly. We must encourage those who are capable and give them protection. This will serve all of our citizens, because it will mean more opportunities for work in the community and increased production and export capability.

The information minister also cited President Mubarak as saying: We will not mask any deviation. Deviations occur in many countries, which hope to rid themselves of such things, although they may be part of the nature of life and of mankind itself. However, I can affirm that no deviation will be covered up and that the law is the strong arm of purity. The law is our means of achieving justice and guaranteeing the citizen's security and future.

Safwat al-Sharif continued: President Mubarak declared that development is the challenge our people and government must meet in the interest of coming generations. We must adhere to the [5-year] plan and continue its successful implementation in its 3d year. With planning, work, and production, the future will be made better.

The information minister added: President Mubarak declared the following: In the first half of its 3d year, the plan achieved its objectives in increased production, while the government achieved savings in current spending. Therefore, I asked the government today to provide a bonus of 10 day's wages to state and public sector employees. The government will issue the instructions for this payment.

Safwat al-Sharif added: Dealing with foreign policy, President Mubarak said that our foreign policy and diplomatic actions serve our domestic causes. He said: We have balanced relations with the world's countries and with both superpowers. We have unique and excellent relations with the United States, based on mutual respect and frankness. My visit to the United States, which is a friendly country, will serve our foreign policy, our region's issues, and development on our soil.

The information minister noted that President Mubarak went on to say: We must see our national interests as our highest priority, above personal interests. We must always realize that national interests supersede personal and partisan interests. This is the principle that governs our actions and our foreign and domestic policies.

President Mubarak added that our foreign policy and actions also serve our Arab nation's interests. The Palestinian issue is the crux of the Middle East problem, and time is proving the soundness of Egypt's policy and of its goals.

The information minister said that President Mubarak declared that we are one of the nonaligned nations and do not permit the establishment of military bases on our territory. Our relations with the Third World countries are based on mutual respect and on respect for independence, freedom, and our people's will. We act within the framework of the Nonaligned nations to strengthen the movement. This reflects Egypt's weight as a founding member.

Safwat al-Sharif said that President Mubarak discussed the Arab situation, saying: Relations have been restored with fraternal Jordan. We are involved in constant consultation with Jordan on the Palestinian issue. I hope that understanding between Jordan and the Palestinians will be enhanced, so that Egypt, Jordan, and the Palestinians will be able to act, to provide impetus to the peace process and to take action on the Palestinian issue.

The information minister said that President Mubarak stressed that Egypt's relations with Jordan are making major strides in all political, economic, and commercial areas.

The information minister noted that President Mubarak referred to Egyptian-Iraqi relations, saying: Egypt opposes the acquisition of territory by force. We have relations with our Arab brothers, but Egypt will not allow its dignity or will to be harmed. Egypt adheres to its effective and pioneering decision on security issues and will do so forever. The relations with our nation are governed by Arab and Islamic values, based on ethics and sincerity. We have complete respect for others. Therefore, Egypt will not slide into media campaigns, abuse embassies, or interfere in the affairs of others. We respect agreements: Egypt holds its head high and will always stand proudly. Egypt will not bend and will remain strong and capable. It fought for the sake of its nation, and emerged victorious. We are marching along the road to progress and glory. The future will be a prosperous one, because of the effort of our people. All of our hopes will be realized.

The information minister said that President Mubarak discussed the results of his visit to Greece in achieving a balance in the Mediterranean basin and that President Mubarak noted Egypt's strong historical relations with Greece and the two countries' mutual interests.

Safwat al-Sharif added that President Mubarak also discussed his visit to Italy and the important discussions held with the Italian president and the prime minister.

The information minister said that President Mubarak stressed that our Armed Forces are Egypt's shield, protecting its soil. They must remain strong and able to defend peace, development, and democracy. The Armed Forces are the defender of the Egyptian entity.

GDR Foreign Minister Fischer Visits Egypt

Arrives in Cairo

NC231420 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1240 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 23 Jan (MENA) — GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a 3-day visit during which he will meet will President Husni Mubarak. He will also hold talks with Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, who received him on arrival at Cairo airport.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid made a statement in which he welcomed the GDR guest and said that the visit is a good opportunity to consolidate relations between Egypt and the GDR.

In reply, Fischer thanked 'Abd al-Majid and said that his visit is a result of the good relations between the two countries, which have particularly improved during recent years. Fischer expressed his country's appreciation for Egypt's role as a prominent member and a founder of the Nonaligned Movement, as a Security Council member, and as a supporter of peaceful coexistence and international law.

The GDR minister expressed his country's concern over the deterioration in international conditions as a result of the military buildup and confrontation. The human race, he said, should not be endangered for the sake of nuclear supremacy or by the ill-advised use of space for military purposes.

The GDR minister also said that peace is attainable and that international disputes can only find their permanent solution through negotiations. This also applies to the Middle East conflict, which affects the international atmosphere and threatens world peace, he said, pointing out that the GDR favors convening an international conference to settle this conflict.

In conclusion, Fischer expressed his happiness with his visit. I have great hopes for the talks I will hold in Cairo and I am sure the meetings will give a new impetus to bilateral relations and increase mutual understanding.

Talks With 'Abd al-Majid

NC231930 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1810 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 23 Jan (MENA) — Official talks between Egypt and the GDR were held this evening at the Foreign Ministry. The Egyptian participants were led by Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, while the GDR delegation was led by Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer. The two ministers met for the first 30 minutes, after which they were joined by the two delegations.

The Egyptian delegation included Ambassadors Muhsin Fahmi and Dr 'Abd al-Halim Badawi, the foreign minister's assistants;

Ambassador Hasan Qandil, head of the Eastern Europe Department; Ambassador Salah Sha'rawi, Egypt's ambassador in Berlin; Rafiq Husni, head of the Economic Department; Sharif Husni, deputy head of the Cultural Department; Ambassador Muhammad Al-Zua'ybi, director of the foreign minister's office; and Minister Plenipotentiary 'Adil Sadiq.

The German participants included (Matvrin Baclas), director of the German minister's office; Ambassador Wolfgang Schuessler, chief of the Middle East Department; Counsellor (Juergen Stiltser), member of the minister's office; Counsellor (Maniluri), head of a section in the Middle East Department; and the rest of the delegation.

The 2-hour talks, which were also attended by Hans Weitz, GDR ambassador in Cairo, dealt with current international issues of common interest, the foremost being the Middle East problem. The two sides stressed the importance of reaching a just and lasting solution for the area that will restore the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, foremost of which is their right to self-determination, under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people led by Yasir 'Arafat.

The talks also dealt with the Iraqi-Iranian war, the problems of Africa, arms reduction and disarmament, and European security.

The two sides praised positive developments in bilateral relations and stressed the importance of strengthening them in all areas. The GDR foreign minister invited Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid to visit the GDR. The Egyptian foreign minister accepted the invitation, the date of the visit to be fixed later. Following the talks, Dr 'Abd al-Majid hosted a dinner banquet in honor of Oskar Fischer and his delegation.

President Husni Mubarak is due to receive the German guest tomorrow, who will also be received by Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

Makes Statement on Talks

NC232059 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2010 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 23 Jan (MENA) — GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer has described his talks with Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid as constructive and useful, adding that they will provide impetus to bilateral cooperation.

In a statement following his meeting with the Egyptian foreign minister, the German minister said that he and Dr 'Abd al-Majid discussed a comprehensive program involving all aspects of bilateral cooperation. He added that identical views were expressed on the need to continue the dialogue at all levels to give impetus to the cooperation process, and stressed the importance of expanding bilateral economic and technical relations.

The GDR foreign minister said that Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and minister of general engineering, agricultural machinery, and vehicle building, will visit Cairo shortly to hold talks with officials here within the framework of bolstering and developing bilateral relations. It was in fact agreed to take specific tangible measures in this respect up to 1987.

Oskar Fischer made reference to some international issues discussed during the meeting. He stressed that there is no difference in principle between the Egyptian and German viewpoints on the various international issues, while it was agreed that it is necessary to exert the utmost efforts to secure international peace and cooperation.

On the Middle East issue, he noted the UN and the Fes summit resolutions, as well as the Soviet proposals. All of these, in the view of both delegations, serve as a sound basis for solutions to the area's problems, by which to secure the independence, security, and sovereignty of the concerned parties in the region.

On the issue of Lebanon, Fischer said that it is unanimously agreed internationally that Israel's illegal occupation of the territories of others is illegitimate and that it must withdraw its forces from Lebanon.

Fischer also made note of the Geneva talks held recently by the foreign ministers of the Soviet Union and the United States, describing them as an initial positive step, which must be followed by similar positive steps. He said that the statement issued following the Geneva meeting dealt with many important issues of concern to many people.

Confers With Mubarak

NC240945 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0935 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 24 Jan (MENA) — This morning President Husni Mubarak received GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer and both sides exchanged views on international issues and current regional problems. They also reviewed bilateral relations and the possibilities for promoting these relations.

The 30-minute meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid. Fischer arrived in Cairo yesterday on a 3-day visit to Egypt.

AL-AKHBAR Critical of Rabin's Statement on Lebanon

PM231737 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 22 Jan 85 p 5

[Editorial: "Statements That Do Not Serve Peace"]

[Text] The threats which Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin made against Lebanon while his forces were preparing to withdraw from southern Lebanon, do not indicate any great amount of sound political thinking. The most foolish of these statements was his saying that his forces were ready to return to southern Lebanon if conditions threatening Israel's security arose. Such a statement, in addition to being an indication of persistence in the will to commit aggression and stir up disturbances in the Middle East, shows a lack of respect for any kind of sovereignty and constitutes exploitation of a UN member state — Lebanon.

Furthermore the Israeli Defense Minister said that Israel was not able to impose order in south Lebanon as it has been able to impose it in the occupied West Bank. Rabin means to say that Israel has been unable to do so because of the heroic resistance by the inhabitants of southern Lebanon to the policy of occupation and annexation of the territories of neighboring countries. Yet this does not mean that the heroic Palestinian people in the occupied West Bank are less courageous. Rather it means that Israel has been unable to open two fronts simultaneously. But Rabin wants to penetrate the source of strength in the Palestinian people's spirit.

Consequently, the Israeli Defense Minister has revealed the nature of the language he understands — the language of strength and of adherence to rights. The behavior of the occupation forces also revealed their fear and alarm when they imposed curfew on the town of Sidon and blocked all the roads leading to it during the preparations for withdrawal from the area.

These statements once again confirm that Israel's policy and its stances always seek to sow the seeds of hatred and malice, and to spread violence in every direction.

We would have wished Rabin to say that Israel has decided to withdraw to enable Lebanon to regain its sovereignty and integrity which, because of Israel's policy, have during the past years been subjected to disruption and loss, and that Israel wants a peaceful neighbor that cooperates in the attainment of peace. But the manner in which the Israeli Defense Minister interprets events is contrary to any logic that seeks reconciliation, stability, and security in the whole area.

'Abd al-Majid Addresses Consultative Council

NC202052 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jan (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has emphasized that the Palestinian issue will continue to be at the top of the goals of Egyptian foreign policy.

He said that the Palestinian issue is the crux of the Middle East conflict and it is linked to the basic national and pan-Arab goal of ensuring security and stability in the Middle East region. It is also linked to the transition to the phase of construction and prosperity in the interest of the region's people and present and future generations.

In a statement he made tonight at a meeting of the Consultative Council's Arab, Foreign, and National Security Affairs Committee, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid affirmed that Egypt's foreign affairs efforts with various states of the world center on the importance of achieving a peaceful, just, and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East, especially enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable rights to self-determination, repatriation, and the establishment of their homeland, and also enabling the PLO, the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, to participate in negotiations for a settlement in the Middle East.

The following is the text of Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid's statement:

I am pleased to meet with you today to brief you on Egyptian foreign policy regarding our most important trends and the important developments that took place recently in keeping with Egypt's clear and firm goals. I dealt with these on several occasions in the past and I believe, there is unanmous agreement on them; therefore, no further details are required.

If I am to sum up the principal basis of Egypt's foreign policy moves, then the issue that has been occupying and continues to occupy first place in our foreign policy goals is the Palestinian issue; this is the crux of the conflict in the Middle East and is linked to the basic, national, and pan-Arab objective of ensuring security and stability in the region and the transition to the phase of construction, progress, and prosperity in the interest of the area's peoples and present and future generations.

Any analysis of Egypt's foreign policy and Egypt's efforts in all its relations with other states will inevitably conclude that this issue is the focal point. The national goals, the economic development and progress, and the democratic system, with its real dimensions and democratic practices which Egypt has achieved, have proved the soundness and effectiveness of its cultural line in dealing with all its political, economic, and domestic issues by fully relying on its own capabilities, and on its people's energy. In its relations with the Arab, African, Islamic, and nonaligned states and the special relationship it has with the United States and the EC as well as its progress toward having good relations with the Soviet Union and the socialist bloc countries, and within the framework of the Egyptian-Israeli relations, Egypt's moves are based on the importance of achieving a peaceful, just, and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East, focussing on the enabling of the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable rights to self-determination, to repatriation, and to the establishment of their homeland as well as enabling the PLO, the Palestinian people's only legitimate representative, to participate in negotiations for a settlement in the Middle East.

If we take the question of the Egyptian policy vis-a-vis the fraternal Arab states, we would find out that the principle of our dealings with them is clear and that it has been emphasized often. This principle is that although we are very keen on and look forward to more close ties with our Arab brothers we impose no conditions and accept none in this regard. What applies here applies to our dealings with the other international parties. I am confident that any belittling of Egypt's abidance by its international commitments or any response by it to certain reactions, in disrespect of our commitments, would not be in the interests of the Palestinian question and the other Arab issues. Moreover, Egypt has transcended this stage by making great strides toward peace and stability. Furthermore, this runs counter to the logic of demanding the restoration of the Palestinian people's rights on the basis of legitimacy and international law. It is illogical that I should demand the international community to support the inalienable and acknowledged rights of the Palestinian people and try at the same time not to abide by some of Egypt's international commitments.

There is no need to describe the current Arab situation. What I want to emphasize, however, is that the general feeling is that all the international contacts Egypt is conducting are dictated by the pressing need for the crystallization of the Arab stand now

and as soon as possible on a practical concept that would include the basis for a just settlement of the Palestinian problem; it would also include the practical factors that would provide the means for realistically implementing a settlement taking into consideration what is possible and what is impossible under the present international circumstances.

As a result of my contacts during the Islamic foreign ministers conference in Sanaa last month, the sincere and amicable discussions I held with the political leadership of the fraternal Yemeni Arab Republic, as well as the constant consultations with the brothers in Sudan, Jordan, Oman, and Somalia, I feel optimistic about the possibility of reaching an Arab agreement on a unified and practical stand on the Palestinian question.

Despite Egypt's reservation on the legality and legitimacy of all the Arab decisions and measures against it and despite the fact that any sound legal analysis would easily show that Egypt's full membership in the Arab League is still valid and that the transfer of the league's headquarters from Egypt was and still is a blatant violation of the league's charter — despite all this, Egypt, in its capacity as a founding member of the league, having a distinguished role in preserving the league's structure against all crises, hopes that this pioneer regional organization will restore its position, effectiveness, and role in uniting the Arabs word and ranks in the struggle for the realization of the sublime national interests of the Arab people in their comprehensive concept. It is our conviction that this can only be realized through vigilant political will by the league's member-states, their adherence to the legality of the league's resolutions, and respect for the provisions of the league's charter.

With reference to the Arab role and its potential for progress in the interest of the main cause and the peoples of the region, the courageous Jordanian step in 4 months has achieved clear signs in that respect. From the time that his majesty the king of Jordan took the step of restoring full relations with Egypt, international interest has focused on making the political dimension of the Palestinian cause the pivotal issue. The Palestinian people have stressed again their complete freedom of will and full independence in their political decision. The PNC was held in the Jordanian capital and drew the attention of world public opinion to the Palestinian cause. The Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories have reconfirmed their full confidence in and absolute support for the PLO as the leader of their struggle and their sole, legitimate representative.

His majesty the king of Jordan has propounded his clearly defined initiative to achieve a peaceful and just settlement of the Palestinian problem. Three summit meetings were held between the [Egyptian] president and His Majesty King Husayn in Amman, Cairo, and Aqaba. They have been fruitful and have at the same time expressed the two fraternal peoples' feelings and enthusiasm for more meetings and links. Bilateral relations between Egypt and Jordan have witnessed a huge push in various fields in consolidation of the two countries' existing ties and for their common interests. This represents a positive example of rapid achievement and of useful cooperation at the Arab level.

The final statement issued by the PNC at its 17th session in Amman expresses the Arab Palestinian people's sincere feelings of praise for the importance of Arab Egypt, its international position, its historic role of support for the Palestinian people, and the human and material sacrifices it has given for Arab causes, the foremost of which is the Palestinian cause. The PNC asked the PLO Executive Committee — when defining the future of relations with Egypt in cooperation with the Arab countries — to adopt a policy toward Egypt that is in line with the firm principles and important developments in Egyptian policy.

Egypt has exerted its utmost efforts in order to support the PLO and to preserve its legitimate entity out of the belief that the international position of the PLO is a huge gain for the Palestinian cause which must be protected and supported. Egypt believes that reaching a definite and clear agreement has become an urgent and inevitable necessity for the pragmatic move toward peace and for intensifying Arab and international support to achieve it.

If the Egyptian move regarding the Palestinian cause represents the main focus of Egypt's foreign policy objectives, then integration between Egypt and fraternal Sudan constitutes a basic pillar of joint efforts for the benefit of Arab causes and for the strategic, political, economic, and social interests that link the people of the north and south Nile valley.

At the Islamic level, the Sanaa conference last December was living proof of the extent of the position and sincere support that Egypt enjoys from all the Islamic countries with the exception of two countries. These two countries thought they could impose their opinions on the ICO but the awareness of the member-states of Egypt's Islamic role and international position made the Sanaa meeting another occasion for confronting all the attempts against Egypt and a political demonstration by the brother Africans and Arabs in support of Egypt, in praise of it, and a welcome for resuming its full membership in the ICO.

I am pleased to reiterate Egypt's profound gratitude for the valiant African role in supporting Egypt and understanding the objectives of the Egyptian policy at all the international forums. This support and understanding was confirmed at the African summit in Addis Ababa and later at the meeting of the Islamic states organization in Sanaa. The loyalty, sincerity, and deep awareness of the fraternal African states confirm each time Egypt's African affiliation and its desire to offer every assistance and exert every effort to serve the African political and economic issues and strengthen its ties with the African peoples with whom, it is proud, to be affiliated.

The support extended by the fraternal African states to the Arab issues and the Palestinian questions should evoke appreciation and pride by the Arab states which should reciprocate and extend their support to African political, economic, and development questions. They should in particular extend all possible aid and efforts to enable the fraternal African states to confront the severe crisis caused by drought and desertification.

In its relations with the United States, Egypt continually concentrates on the importance of and the need for achieving a peaceful and just solution to the Palestinian question. The best proof of this is the speech that the President delivered during his meeting with U.S. President Reagan last year and his very frank demand

to the United States before the entire world that a dialogue be conducted between the United States and the PLO in order to give momentum to the Middle East peace process. Throughout my contacts with U.S. officials and in all the written and verbal messages that I conveyed from our president to the U.S. President the main issue, which was the focal point in these contacts and efforts, was the question of the Palestinian people and their inalienable rights and the concept that this is the principal issue vis-a-vis the question of establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

It is from this same premise that all the Egyptian contacts with the Soviet Union, the European states, and all friendly states are held. I seize this opportunity to brief the Consultative Council's members on the most important aspects of the president's discussions during his recent tour in Greece and Italy.

During the EC's summit that was held in Dublin last December, Greece carried out a major role with respect to the Middle East question. It was useful to continue the consultations with Greece concerning what can be implemented of the Dublin declaration that was issued by the EC states. The president decided to respond to the invitation that President Karamanlis addressed to him during his visit to Egypt last March.

The Egyptian point of view regarding the importance of achieving a peaceful and just settlement to the Palestinian question enabling the Palestinian people to fully exercise their inalienable national rights was clearly and frankly expounded during the meeting between the two presidents and with the Greek prime minister and foreign minister. Within the framework of Egypt's firm strategy of peace, the president proposed the establishment of a peace zone in the Mediterranean basin so that the people of this area may be able to direct their resources toward economic and social development and toward protecting the future of coming generations from the ghost of war and the dangers of despair and anxiety.

Despite the fact that the president's visit to the Italian capital was not official, his excellency the president, during the talks he had with Italian President Pertini and Prime Minister Craxi, reaffirmed the importance of having the EC, the chairmanship of which is now held by Italy, play an effective role in motivating the peace process in the Middle East, in honoring the fraternal Palestinian people's right to exercise their natural right to self-determination and to the establishment of their state on their land, and in supporting the right of the PLO, the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, to represent them in the peace efforts and to express their free will, hopes, and aspirations.

We look forward to receiving the Italian president in the middle of February in order to resume the contacts and consultations on the Palestinian issue, on Italy's role, in its capacity as chairman of the EC, and on the growing Egyptian-Italian relations.

In its quest of the same objective of achieving a just settlement of the Palestinian issue, Egypt is continuing its diplomatic efforts with all the international parties. Within this context and upon the instructions of the president, I will, God willing, go to London and then to the United States in the coming weeks.

If we are to move to another principal area in Egypt's political efforts, then the Lebanese problem has special importance in the Egyptian foreign policy goals. From the beginning, Egypt has explained its political line regarding this problem which involves a fraternal Arab people who have the strongest historical and cultural relations with the Egyptian people. Egypt has not only declared its stand but has also exerted every possible effort to check the continuing bloodshed in Lebanon. The Egyptian efforts in recent years have crystallized in intensified efforts to end the Israeli occupation of south Lebanon and to have the legitimate government there regain complete sovereignty and control over all the Lebanese territory. While the recent Israeli decision to withdraw from south Lebanon has been regarded as a good gesture for ending occupation, Egypt has called for the continuation of the current negotiations on Israeli withdrawal until an agreement is reached on a complete and total withdrawal to be carried out according to a specific timetable. This is the only way to restore normal conditions in Lebanon and to eliminate a basic source of tension and instability in the area. Proceeding from Egypt's integrated concept that our commitment to peace is absolute, Egypt will continue to exert every possible effort to end the ongoing war between Iran and Iraq, which constitutes a waste of the two fraternal people's human and national resources, a mounting threat to the security and stability in the area, and an opportunity for foreign intervention with grave consequences.

The principal dimension in our foreign relations is Egyptian-Israeli relations. You are aware that everything is accomplished in this framework is declared, frankly and clearly, and is done on the same basis as those that govern our relations with the other states. We are keen on honoring our commitments and request that Israel honor its commitments toward peace. This is the focal point of Egyptian policy in the area and in our consideration of all international issues. When the president explained Egypt's stand on relations with Israel by requesting the return of Tabah, a withdrawal from Lebanon, and the achievement of progress regarding the Palestinian issue, he was only emphasizing the Egyptian concept of an all-embracing perspective for giving momentum to and completing the peace process in the area.

While Egypt is following with deep concern the inclination of the Israeli Government toward establishing settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and all the fuss that the extremist forces in Israel are stirring up, Egypt is at the same time seeking to allow world public opinion to place the responsibility for advancing the peace process or impeding it on the actions of each side. To this end, Egypt has reiterated the extreme importance of retrieving Tabah which is part of the Egyptian national conscience. It concerns the firm principles and values of the consecrated national soil. Egypt has proposed the adoption of definite steps concerning Israel's commitment toward the task of the multinational force in the area. Egypt also proposes to move to international arbitration procedures in accordance with the agreement signed by the two countries on 25 April 1982 in which the United States took part. The first round of talks will be held on 27 January for that definite purpose. We hope that the problem will be settled at the earliest possible opportunity.

The gist of what I am telling you today is that Egypt will continue to be firm and determined in its endeavours toward its clear and defined national and pan-Arab aims and at the international level

also, particularly as Egypt is fully aware of its international responsibilities as a member of the Security Council, as chairman of the developing countries group, in addition to its constant responsibilities toward its role of establishing peace and stability in the Middle East.

'Ali Denies Report of Improper Bank Loans

NC231659 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 23 Jan (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali denied a report published by the newspaper *AL-AHALI* on its front page today under the headline: "A Foreign Bank Gives the Prime Minister's Family a Loan...and the State Turns a Blind Eye to His Wrongdoing." The prime minister said that such cheap campaigns, as well as their timing, will neither frighten anyone nor force the government to discontinue its policy of correcting the course of the Egyptian economy and achieving economic and social development through a policy of productive openness.

In a statement today, the prime minister challenged *AL-AHALI* to present any evidence that he or any member of his family obtained a loan from any bank in the country — foreign or domestic, that he used his influence for personal or economic gain, or that he engaged in unethical or illegal activities to benefit himself or his family.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali added that the newspaper's report is not the first lie it has used in a crooked attempt to cast doubt on the honesty of public figures, particularly those who don't agree with the intellectual and political line of the party that publishes this newspaper as its mouthpiece.

He said that if there have been any lines of credit — and not loans — granted by any bank to any businessman, including the prime minister's brother, then this was done as part of the long-standing, acknowledged commercial dealings that are regulated by law.

Arrested Communists Members of 2 Organizations

NC231847 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 23 Jan (MENA) — The High State Security Prosecutor's Office continued its investigation today into the 22 persons accused of belonging to two leftist organizations. The first, which involves 19 defendants, is the Communist Trotskyite Organization; the second is the Egyptian Communist Party, the Congress [al-hizb al-shu'uyi al-masri al-mu'tamar].

This statement came from a responsible source in the High State Security Prosecutor's Office. He said that eight defendants remain at large, and that the defendants from these two groups sought to establish illegal organizations opposed to the government. They employed violence to achieve their strategic objectives, and incited the people on various occasions.

He noted that documents defining the aims of these organizations were seized along with the defendants. The security authorities had records of the attempts made by some defendants to incite students. The prosecutor's office will continue its investigation of these defendants in the coming days before starting legal proceedings against them. The prosecutor's office issued an order yesterday stating that the defendants were to be held without bail throughout the investigation.

AL-AHRAM on 'Secret' Israeli Memo to U.S. on Aid

PM231605 [Editorial report] Cairo *AL-AHRAM* International Edition in Arabic on 22 January carries on page 5 a 2000-word Hamdi Fu'ad report from Washington giving a summary of what the paper describes as "an 80-page secret memorandum submitted by Israel to the United States on 12 December 1984 listing its reasons for requesting additional U.S. military and economic aid up to the year 1988. The note also gives the strategic objectives Israel hopes to achieve if it receives $10.5 billion between 1984 and 1988." That aid, the report maintains, "would enable it to face any Arab attempt to threaten its security and also to confront terrorism and ensure continued Israeli superiority and power to deter any attempt to threaten its security and safety."

AL-AHRAM's summary gives a breakdown of aid figures, the fields or projects they have been or will be allocated to, and Israel's list of justifications for its military requirements and expenditure.

AL-AHRAM says that the Israeli note "lists the major objectives of its security policy as follows:

"1. Maintaining Israel's military power and deterrent capability in the face of the rejectionist states and terrorist organizations;

"2. Having the military power to enable it to negotiate from a position of strength;

"3. Keeping Israel in a position where it can mount military operations to preempt any imminent attack which might threaten its security."

At one point the memorandum quoted as saying that "the Arab states' continuous military buildup will compel us to maintain our qualitative and quantitative superiority." It also stresses that "U.S. aid to Israel will ensure security in the Middle East, because that aid and U.S.-Israeli cooperation, will force the Arab states to refrain from any adventures wheih might threaten Israel's security."

In an unattributed "editor's comment" on the same page, *AL-AHRAM* says that Israel's justifications "distort all the facts relating to Israel's policies and the general situation in the Middle East." It adds that, if the Arab states are building up their military power, they do so "in the face of a U.S.-backed Israeli policy aimed at giving Israel military superiority over all the Arab states put together. The Arab states build up their military power to defend their territory against any aggression by any side."

On the Israeli memorandum's reference to negotiation from a position of strength, *AL-AHRAM* says that this implies that Israel should be in a position "to defy all UN resolutions and

international charters which are supposed to govern the negotiating process between Israel and the Arab states."

AL-AHRAM refutes the Israeli argument that Israel should be able to carry out military operations to preempt any possible attack.

It says that "Israel's record refutes that logic, because the attacks and aggressions against the various Arab sides have always come from the Israeli side, using that military power which Israel wants to maintain and increase.

The latest aggression was Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

To this very moment, Israel is still giving feeble excuses, justifications, and pretexts to delay its withdrawal from Lebanese territory, and it is making plans to keep a part of southern Lebanon under its control.

"There can be no doubt that the U.S. side is aware of the Israeli justifications contained in that secret memorandum.

The United States realizes that the real question on which peace and stability in the Middle East depend is not whether Israel should be given massive military aid, but whether the problem of the occupation of Arab land by force and the building of settlements can be resolved, and whether the restoration of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights can any longer be blocked."

AL-WAFD Reports Protests to Israeli Role in Book Fair

PM231557 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 17 Jan 85 pp 1,11

[Unattributed report: "*AL-WAFD* Rejects Israel's Participation in Book Exhibition"]

[Excerpt] The 17th international book exhibition will open next Tuesday on Al-Nasr City fairground. Israel will participate in the exhibition after a 2-year absence. Culture Minister 'Abd al-Hamid Radwan has turned down a request by Dr 'Izz al-Din Isma'il, head of the public authority for books, for 2 weeks' leave to go to Europe because he objects to Israel's participation.

AL-WAFD has learned that strict security has been imposed at the Israeli stand. Three different security branches will guard it. These are the central security forces, the State Security Investigation Department, and some Israeli guards.

The nationalist forces in Egypt issued a statement denouncing Israel's participation in the exhibition and demanding a boycott of the exhibition. The statement was signed by Al-Wafd Party leader Fu'ad Saraj al-Din, leaders of the NPUG Party, the Socialist Labor Party, the Al-Ummah Party, some trade union leaders, and publishing house proprietors. Al-Wafd Secretary General Ibrahim Faraj, in a statement to *AL-WAFD*, stressed the need to boycott the Israeli stand. He said that the party strongly objects to Israel's participation in the exhibition and that any Egyptian who visits the Israeli stand will be committing a crime against his country.

Communique No 1,720 on 22-23 Jan Actions

JN231800 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Communique No. 1,720 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 23 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The more the ignorant Iranian rulers indulge in aggression and evil, the stronger and firmer Iraq's heroes become. Their daring, meticulous operations affirm that the truth will reign supreme, and that the Iranian rulers and those Arabs who whisper encouragement in their ears have no choice but to recognize their frustration and defeat at the hands of the proud Iraqis and their God-supported efforts. The following is a summary of operations for last night and today:

1. Our daring Air Force has continued to deal crippling blows to those who wanted to harm our country and who meanly and recklessly refused to heed the voice of truth and justice. Tightening the siege on Khark Island and the other Iranian ports, our courageous pilots attacked a medium-sized maritime target south of Khark Island at 1200 [0900 GMT] today and, as usual, scored accurate, effective hits. They returned with their planes safely and in God's protection.

2. Continuing their attacks to liquidate the Khomeyniite gang and inflict further losses on its defeated forces, and in order to affirm our growing supremacy, God willing, our daring pilots launched 58 combat missions in the Maysan sector and east of Basra in order to drop their flaming bombs on the preachers of evil and cut this misled gang down to size. They returned with their planes safe and triumphant, protected by God.

3. Groups of enemy soldiers attempted to approach one of our forward units in the central sector of the front, but our hero fighters opened fire on them, killing two and wounding others. The rest of the enemy soldiers fled the battlefield, leaving behind a number of serviceable weapons and equipment.

4. Our forward units continue to pound enemy forces east of Basra, inflicting losses in men and equipment on them. One enemy infantry position and one machine gun were destroyed in the same sector.

5. Our forward units pounded enemy positions, artillery emplacements, and troop concentrations in the Maysan sector. One enemy infantry position was destroyed elsewhere in the same sector.

6. One of our patrol units attacked enemy positions in the northern sector. They destroyed one large enemy vehicle, killing its occupants, and one excavator. The patrol members returned safely to base, praise be to God.

7. The mean enemy shelled some civilian areas near Basra with heavy artillery today. Ten houses were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 January 1985

Another Maritime Target Hit Near Khark Island

JN241004 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0950 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. As an expression of great Iraq's capabilities, the people's Armed Forces deal successive blows to the remnants of the staggering Khomeyniite regime at sea, on land, and in the air. In implementation of Iraq's legitimate decision to continue imposing a siege on Khark Island and other Iranian ports, the valiant hawks of the air have carried out a daring raid against a medium-size maritime target near Khark Island. The target was dealt a destructive blow at 0930 [0630 GMT] today. Thus, our hawks added this new target to the other targets which they had struck in the past days. The staunch hawks of the air returned safely with their planes.

Let the Iranian rulers know that we will continue to strike in all the operational sectors until they repent and desist from their evil course. This is their only course to salvation. It is God who grants victory.

[Dated] 24 January 1985

Officer Comments on War With Iran, New Weapons

JN240852 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0815 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Jan (INA) — A ranking Iraqi officer has stated that the Iranian rulers' insistence on prolonging the aggression will force Iraq to use new kinds of weapons to wipe out any Iranian forces which commit aggression against it. Staff Major General Hamid Ahmad al-Ward stressed that complete annihilation of the attacking Iranian forces is the best method of ending the aggression.

In a study on Iran and the military situation published here today, Staff Maj Gen al-Ward said that the situation can no longer suffer any delay in settling the battle or in giving international mediation more chances to end the war. The officer stressed that Iraq possesses the methods and means of achieving this victory and its spirit to the level of a comprehensive assault on the aggressors.

He stressed that Iraq now enjoys better military plans thanks to its field experience that, when implemented in future battles, will have a decisive result in ending an important page in the annals of the catastrophe that will befall the Iranian forces.

RCC Member Interviewed on PLO, Lebanon, Iran

GF232006 Al-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 22 Jan 85 p 6

[Interview with Na'im Haddad, Iraqi RCC member and National Command member, by Thikrayat Muhammad Hasan, after Haddad's return to Baghdad from the PNC session in Amman — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Hasan] Will the PLO begin new activities after the PNC convocation?

[Haddad] It certainly will have a new vitality and emerge stronger, despite its circumstances and the ending of its military existence in the confrontation countries. The PLO has managed to come through very difficult times, such as the serious events in Lebanon and the liquidation attempts.

[Hasan] When will the Lebanese wounds be healed?

[Haddad] Since the outbreak of bloody clashes among the Lebanese people, President Saddam Husayn has been saying that everyone must throw away their arms, respond to rational calls, and begin a democratic dialogue because Lebanon's strength lies in democracy and not arms. The method of arms carries with it many dangers and will not produce a winner. All will come out losers. The important thing is for Lebanon to remain independent and Arab. Internal disputes have forced the Lebanese people to ask for help from foreign and Arab countries. As a result, there have been a number of interferences in Lebanon by these countries, which have only made things worse by providing an excuse for Israel to occupy Lebanon.

Syrian existence in Lebanon has resulted in the cantons we see before our very eyes, which is in line with the Zionist-imperialist plots. Lebanon is surviving and is licking its wounds. The solution to its crisis depends principally on the expulsion of the Israeli enemy and liberation of Lebanon from the Zionists and foreign interference, so that Lebanon can settle its fate itself.

[Hasan] Will Palestinian activity return to Lebanon, just like before?

[Haddad] We must not charge Lebanon with more responsibilities than it can bear. There are many struggle fronts other than Lebanon. The important thing is to direct all Arab efforts toward pushing Israel out of Lebanon.

[Hasan] There has been a recent escalation in Iraqi air activities. Is this a plan designed to thwart and confuse Iranian preparations and plans for attack?

[Haddad] Certainly. Every time they have prepared for an attack a blow has been dealt to them. It is natural that the best form of defense is offense. Our blows have confused their troops whenever they were preparing for an attack. For this reason we will continue dealing blows to them everywhere.

RCC Approves Reward for Informants of Hoarders

JN231715 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The RCC has decided to grant 20 percent of the price of confiscated goods to whoever helps justice in exposing the hoarders of goods that are not sold at the legal prices, and that are hoarded, stored, or withheld from the public. The following is the text of the decree:

In accordance with the provisions of paragraph A of Article 42 of the constitution, the 22 January 1985 RCC session decrees the following:

1. Twenty percent of the price of the property and goods that are confiscated because it is proven that they are not being sold at legal prices and that they are being hoarded, stored, or withheld from the public, thus constituting a crime punishable by RCC Decree No 1,315, dated 2 December 1984. [sentence as heard]

2. The above percentage will be granted to the citizen who helps justice in exposing these crimes and informs on those who commit them.

3. This decree will be implemented from the day it is published in the official gazette.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, RCC chairman

Gulf Leaders Cabled on Financial Commitments
JN231411 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi sent cables to His Majesty Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Kuwaiti Amir His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad today. In his cables, the Senate president expressed the Senate's gratitude to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait for completely fulfilling their commitments to Jordan and for bolstering its steadfastness the longest confrontation line with the Israeli enemy.

Al-Lawzi also sent cables to Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani and UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. He affirmed the Senate's appeal to them to fulfill their countries' commitments to Jordan by transferring the outstanding installments of these commitments so that Jordan can continue to be strong and steadfast in the face of the Zionist designs threatening the entire Arab nation.

House Approves Laws, Discusses Security Issues
JN231355 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The House of Representatives held a closed session this morning under Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz. Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat and the ministers attended the meeting. During the session the House Heard the prime minister's explanations of the reasons that necessitate amending the Passport Law. In light of this, an objective discussion ensued after which the House voted, with an absolute majority, to ratify the amended Law No 25 for 1984 to be the Passport Law as submitted by the Senate.

The Senate had amended Article 3 of the law which gives the competent quarters specified by the interior minister the powers to issue and renew passports that are issued by Jordanian embassies and consulates abroad.

At the end of the session, Information Minister Mrs Layla Sharaf made a statement in which she indicated that Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat read a detailed statement during the closed session explaining the current overall security situation and the security precautions that are being taken to confront this situation. She added that the prime minister explained the concern of the government and officials for the citizen's liberty, dignity, and security and their dedication and care for these rights. He also explained the measures that have been adopted to issue and renew passports. He indicated that these are normal measures that are quickly implemented except regarding those persons about whom there are queries for on well-known security reasons. In the latter case, the person. applying for the passports is summoned to Amman to explain and discuss the issue and accompanying circumstances. These are normal measures that are taken by all world countries that endeavor to preserve their security and are subjected to unusual circumstances in this regard. The information minister said that the House discussed the Senate's amendement of the Passport Law in light of the explanations mentioned in the prime minister's statement. The discussion, which became heated at times, ended with a vote in favor of the amendment. The House of Representatives will refer this law to the Senate for approval before being submitted to the Cabinet in order to complete the constitutional measures.

The House held an ordinary session before the closed one this morning under Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz and in the presence of Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat and the ministers. At the beginning of the session, the House approved Provisional Law No 5 for 1984 which amended the Medical Association Law. The House also approved Provisional Law No 36 for 1982 that amends the Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and Holy Places Law, as well as the Mu'tah University Law No 11 for 1981.

'Ubaydat Speech; Senate Budget Approval Reported
JN231958 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 23 Jan 85 pp 1, 3

[By Iliya Nasrallah and Salamah B. Ni'mat, *JORDAN TIMES* staff writers]

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat revealed Tuesday that Jordan has struck oil at a third well in the Azraq area producing crude at five times the quantities flowing from the first two proven wells in the Kingdom's northeastern desert.

Mr. 'Ubaydat told the Upper House of Parliament (Senate) that the Hamzah 3 well produced "encouraging" quantities and that he was optimistic of the results. "The national team now involved in the drilling operations had been trying for three days to control the oil flow," the prime minister said.

The previous two oil wells in the Azraq area, some 100 milometres east of Amman, were proven to yield 2,000 barrels per day. Oil experts had told the *JORDAN TIMES* that the oil flow could be increased through a chemical injection treatment to reach up to five times the quantities flowing naturally.

In a recent interview with the *JORDAN TIMES*, one oil expert working at the drilling rig in Azraq said the Kingdom was preparing to reach up to half its needs of crude by the end of 1987.

The prime minister who was addressing the Senate, which met Tuesday to hear a report on the national draft budget by its Financial Committee, said that the Hamzah 3 well has an underground pressure amounting to five times those in wells number one and two.

"The national team has become self-confident and in full control of the operations, and is continually analysing the finds and pursuing the work with increasing confidence and objectivity," the prime minister said.

Mr. 'Ubaydat also told the Senate that a technical committee formed by the Royal Commission for the Development of Civil Service has embarked on a study aimed at including government employees, governed by the civil service system, in the framework of the Social Security Corporation Law, so that all public and private employees in the country will be covered by unified social security and pension law.

Mr. 'Ubaydat's speech at the Upper House followed approval by the Senate of the 1985 draft budget of JD 811.2 million. The Senate Financial Committee, which studied the budget and recommended its approval, also read out a report on the budget and referred to various issues.

Several senators also delivered speeches, commenting on the budget and related issues.

The prime minsiter thanked the Senate members for their remarks about the draft budget and said the budget was based on "principles and concepts that are deemed to safeguard Jordan's best interest."

The budget, he said, "has provisions for the armed and security forces which should be strengthened to maintain a strong defence of the nation in the current difficult circumstances." The budget has been drawn up in a way to maintain and bolster Jordan's ties with Arab countries in implementation of His Majesty King Husayn's policies of "maintaining solidarity with the Arab Nation in word and deed," the prime minister said.

He said that the budget also provides support for the Arab inhabitants of the occupied Arab lands, and the government appreciates statements by senators about plans for helping to develop the occupied West Bank. But, he said, Arab countries should honour their financial commitments to the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee to support the steadfastness of the Palestinian people.

A joint Jordanian-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) team will tour Arab countries to try to raise necessary funds, Mr. 'Ubaydat said.

He also paid tribute to the members who voiced support for the government's policy adopted at the bridges across the Jordan River, and measures for travellers in both direction. He said these measures have been adopted to serve national cause and added that the government will accept any constructive proposals which can help to improve travel procedures.

Referring to Arab financial aid to Jordan, he said that the failure in paying Jordan this aid has had its great adverse consequences on the balance of payments of Jordan and prompted the Kingdom to resort to loans. This aid also affects the country's military commitments and armament programmes, and therefore the government is conducting contacts with Arab states to ensure more aid, the prime minister said.

Referring to the economic situation in the country, the prime minister said that Jordan's economy should not be overburdened because the whole world is still affected by the economic recession. "Yet, we feel that Jordan still enjoys relatively high rates of growth in industry, transport and construction," Mr. 'Ubaydat said.

He said that Jordan has succeeded in increasing its exports and in opening new markets for phosphates, cement, potash and fertiliser. He said that the government believes that the private sector has a great role to play in reviving the economic situation in Jordan. "This sector can be helped to do more by creating a suitable atmosphere for investment and offering incentives for the investors." the prime minister said.

The Government has plans to develop agriculture and support production sectors and will apply balanced agricultural production systems which have already been applied in selected regions, and will be applied in high regions in April and in the Jordan Valley in August, The prime minister said.

The Government will give due attention to the marketing of agricultural products locally and abroad and will embark on pilot projects to produce wheat and fodder over a 13,000 dunum area of land in Sahl al Suwwan, the prime minister said.

The government also has plans to produce all types of fodder for livestock and poultry and to sell the fodder at reasonable prices, because the present prices are unreasonable, he said.

In its report to the Senate over the budget the financial committee recommended that the budget be approved and noted the following points.

The committee stressed the need for providing the Jordanian Armed Forces with modern weapons and effective training in their use to maintain a strong defence of the Arab nation and its holy places and heritage.

The committee also voiced its support for the government's efforts to crete a "people's army" to back the Armed Forces in their national duties and in regaining the usurped lands.

The committee also emphasised the need for extending support to the Arab inhabitants of the occupied Arab lands to bolster their steadfastness and help them maintain their cultural and national identity.

The committee voiced appreciation and gratitude to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait for honouring their financial commitments towards Jordan and the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation, and called on Qatar and the United Arab Emirates to follow suit.

The committee also voiced its total support to the government for taking all measures to ensure security for all citizens and for foilling all attempts by those tampering with the internal security.

The committee urged the government to focus attention on food production by well-studied plans and sound execution of projects and supporting the farmers endeavours.

The committee paid tribute to the government's efforts for improving education, communications and public services, for developing the civil service system and improving the judicial system in the country.

It also voiced support for the government's measures to protect local products in the face of foreign competition and in rationalising energy.

The committee proposed that the government make a study of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, in an attempt to avoid further financial losses for the national carrier and called on the government to create more incentives for encouraging investments.

The committee noted a contradiction between the Ministry of Supply's policy of importing foreign-made cigarettes and the Health Ministry's warnings to the public against smoking, and proposed that a special fund for supporting tobacco farmers or any other body should take charge of these cigarette imports.

The committee also directed criticism at the Ministry of Supply for establishing factories to process animal feed, because it said that they serve as rival projects to those initiated by the private sector.

The committee proposed that the government should question those in charge of major public companies and projects in the country which fail to repay their due loans. Managers of projects which normally tend to run up exorbitant costs should be asked to account for their performance and failures, it said.

The committee suggested that companies which have failed to live up to expectations or have failed in performance should be merged to avoid losses.

The committee said that in a developing country like Jordan imports should not exceed the rate of growth of national income and that direct taxes should not exceed indirect taxes.

The committee called on the government to give due care to the transport and contracting sectors to help transport goods and carry out major projects in a manner that would best benefit investors.

The committee suggested that university professors should take part in working out the new five year development plan and to work in cooperation with the public sectors involved in the plan.

The committee said that the volume of foreign loans has grown in the past 10 years at the rate of 100 per cent and the burden of foreign loans is increasing every year. It said that the national balance of payment has suffered over the past years, which led to the dwindling in the country's reserves of foreign currency which constitute the best guarantee for the stability of prices and the Jordanian dinar's ability to be used for imports operations. The committee warned against the consequences of the new draft budget law on the balance of payments and reserves, because it said that the purchase of weapons for defence and the national commitments for steadfastness threaten to put the balance of payments in a worse shape, unless the burden of foreign debt is drastically reduced. It said that Jordan is in dire need of Arab financial aid since the delay in payment has brought about the deficit in the balance of payments and the erosion of foreign reserves.

The committee noted with concern an increase in various public undertakings' spending, as allocated in the budget bill. Therefore, it said, it calls on the government to place all independent or semi-independent government agencies under their concerned ministries so that their budgets can be controlled within the general budget, and to introduce amendments to laws governing public corporations with the purpose of subjecting their respective budgets to a review by the Cabinet for endorsement.

The committee also pointed out the provisions in the budget for improving the salaries of civil servants and military personnel and pensioners. It said that provisions also should be made to improve to combat abject poverty as a manifestation of sympathy with the whole Jordanian society. [sentence as published]

The committee suggested that every ministry or government office should present an annual statement about its assets and the expected annual consumption of material for future control.

Delivering a speech at Tuesday's Senate session, Senator Zayd al-Rifa'i said Jordan was suffering a recession "which is not only an extension of the world recession, but also a result of internal and external elements which influenced the structure of the Jordanian economy."

Mr. al-Rifa'i said that as a result of the Gulf war, Jordan lost one of its markets and at the same time failed to find new markets for its products. He said the government also incurred a loss in large projects implemented in the Kingdom.

Arab countries should realise the responsibility carried by Jordan which "represents a political geographical and human deterrent against the Israeli enemy," Mr. al-Rifa'i said, referring to the decline in the size of Arab aid as agreed upon by the Arab League during the 1978 Arab summit in Baghdad.

Mr. al-Rifa'i said that as a result of all this, Jordan's revenues have gone down by JD 77 million — 14 per cent from what was projected four years ago. He said the 25 per cent reduction in Arab aid for 1985 decreased the treasury's revenues by JD 138 million assuming that the Arab aid for 1985 will be fully paid.

He said that Jordan's general debt reached JD 830 million by mid-1984, representing a JD 550 million burden on the government's treasury. It is equivalent of 130 per cent of the Kingdom's exports last year and 60 per cent of the gross national product. He pointed out that two thirds of the debts are paid by foreign currencies.

Mr. al-Rifa'i urged the government to concentrate on its plans to achieve social justice and to stop the widening of the gap between poor people and rich people. He expressed reservations over the government's ability to control the actual recurrent expenditure which he said will exceed the specified allocations in the budget.

He also expressed fear that the Kingdom's revenues would not be fully attained and that Arab aid might not be fully paid.

Mr. al-Rifa'i warned that the situation requires a "courageous policy to restructure the programme" and impose the bases necessary for achieving that.

He criticised the government's policy of selling its shares in companies and said that the prevailing situation in the financial market does not allow this transaction.

Commenting on the financial loss of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airlines, Mr. al-Rifa'i said that Alia routes which are incurring loss should be cancelled, as the airline is not a commercial company aiming to profit directly, "but one of the Kingdom's arms."

Also delivering a speech to the Senate, Senator Hikmat al-Masri thanked the governments of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait for fulfilling their financial commitments to Jordan and urged other Arab countries to do the same. He said that contacts with Arab countries to urge them to pay the specified funds should be on the highest level.

Commenting on the Kingdom's restoration of diplomatic relations with Egypt, Mr. al-Masri said it was a "courageous and wise step that supported the Palestinaan cause." He said the holding of the Palestine National Council in Amman had "put an end to all crises of the Palestine Liberation Organisation" and that there was a "necessity to achieve a clear Jordanian-Palestinian agreement."

The Senate also heard a speech delivered by Senator Hazim Nusaybah, who said that national security is on the top of the Kingdom's priorities.

He called on the government to strengthen the Armed Forces so that it can safegaurd its achievements. "There is no sense of having an economic and social development without the military strength capable of protecting it," he said.

Dr. Nusaybah said he looked forward to the formation of an organised and armed people's army because "peace without strength becomes surrender."

He said that while Jordan spends one-sixth of its national income on defence, Israel receives the funding for its war machine unconditionally from the United States. He called on Arab states to help Jordan as when Israel arms itself "it is against all Arabs and not only Jordan."

He urged the government to take the initiative with brotherly countries to revive an Arab military industry project which was frozen in 1979 in cooperation with the most advanced international companies in this field. "Our national security does not allow us to lag behind Israel in this field."

On the issue of food security, Dr. Nusaybah said the government should give special attention to this problem by concentrating on developing the agricultural sector in Jordan, mainly in the field of grains.

He urged the government to cultivate 10,000 dunums with wheat to reach self-sufficiency in this field in cooperation with the private sector. He said that Saudi Arabia has succeeded in this field and that Jordan should follow suit.

Dr. Nusaybah pointed out that the government should give proper attention to the exploitation of available energy resources such as oil shale of which the Kingdom has large reserves.

During Tuesday's session, the Senate also referred to the Legal Committee and the Education Committee a number of laws including amended and provisional laws concerning the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University.

The Senate also referred to the Financial Committee a law on professional office services in Amman, a provisional law on professional licences and referred a 1983 passport Law to its legal committee.

Details of Trade, Oil Agreement With Iraq

JN232128 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 23 Jan 85 p 3

[Text] Amman (PETRA) — Jordan and Iraq have agreed to conclude a protocol on bilateral cooperation in prospecting for, extracting, refining and distributing oil and will exchange expertise in these fields through the ministries of oil, energy and mineral resources in both countries, according to an announcement here Tuesday.

The announcement was made by Mr. Ghazi Diyab, director of economic cooperation at the Ministry of Industry and Trade and member of a Jordanian delegation which held talks in Baghdad on Iraqi-Jordanian economic cooperation. The delegation which returned to Amman at dawn Tuesday was led by Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad al-'Anani.

According to Mr. Diyab, the two countries have decided that both countries should pursue the implementation of an earlier agreement between the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company and the Iraqi Oil Products Corporation on storing, marketing, importing and exporting oil products.

He said that the committee also decided to increase and diversify the volume of trade between Iraq and Jordan in a manner which will further consolidate economic cooperation between the two countries.

Towards this end, he said, the Iraqi and Jordanian trade centres in Amman and Baghdad will have a trade quota of JD 16 million each and Iraq will import increasing quantities of Jordanian agricultural products. Iraq will also import tomato paste processed in Jordan and no less than 100 million eggs during 1985, Mr. Diyab said.

Both sides agreed to exchange various quantities of national products, such as Iraqi matches and superphosphates to be imported by Jordan and a total of 22,000 tonnes of Jordan's phosphates to be exported to Iraq in 1985, Mr. Diyab added. He said that both sides agreed to coordinate in defining measurements and specifications of national products in view of their importance in promoting and facilitating trade between the two countries.

In agriculture, the two countries agreed that Jordan will benefit from Iraq's experience in fishbreeding and in training Jordanian staff, and both countries will increase cooperation in the production of vaccines, in ways to protect plants and in conducting agricultural research, Mr. Diyab said.

In this respect, it was agreed that Jordan will supply Iraq with a number of materials for plasticulture and equipment needed for drip irrigation processes, he said.

Both sides, he said, have agreed on steps to boost industrial cooperation and the newly-formed Jordanian-Iraqi Industrial Company will soon embark on plans for joint projects.

The committee discussed subjects connected with ways to facilitate transport by land and sea between the two countries and how to benefit from Jordan's cold stores in Aqaba to store imported Iraqi goods, Mr. Diyab said.

Furthermore, the two sides agreed on certain measures designed to facilitate financial procedures and to increase the volume of trade by removing obstacles impeding them, Mr. Diyab said.

Apart from Mr. Diyab, the committee included representatives from the Ministries of Transport, Energy and Mineral Wealth, the Central Bank of Jordan, the Free Zone Corporation, and the Jordanian company for the processing and marketing of agricultural products.

Columnist Ridicules Sudanese Regime Practices

JN231325 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 22 Jan 85 pp 1, 20

["A Word That Must Be Said" column by "Ibn al-Sha'b": "The People Emigrated and the Ruler Remained"]

[Text] How great is the calamity in our Arab homeland and how bitter the calamity becomes when a regime becomes a disaster for its kinfolk and people.

The Palestinian people, gentlemen, are not the only Arab people that are suffering in this homeland. Some Arab peoples are experiencing a real calamity because of their rulers' shortsightedness, parochialism, confused actions, and loss of any real theory about rule. The good Sudanese people with all the goodness for which they are renowned in the Arab world, once felt that relief had come to them through the door of the military.

The Sudanese people dreamed of a political and social revolution, and the military came with all the rosy slogans we heard at the climax of Arab tide. Hence the Sudanese militaristic regime came carrying all cards in its hand, mounting the pan-Arab current, presenting leftist slogans, sharing rule with the Communists at one stage, flirting the religious current, and raising socialist slogans.

This regime, instead of forming a national front based on all the abovementioned slogans and instead of adopting a national program to upgrade the richest and poorest Arab country, and just like all autocratic and militaristic regimes, chose to evacuate its national elements from the arena, reducing the pan-Arab trend to an empty slogan and socialism and leftism to a socialism of poverty and collapse.

After this regime has become experienced in repression, chasing the Islamic trend, it suddenly resorts to the Islamic shar'ia for color and protection and as a pretext to coerce its adversaries. It is like someone trying to escape from his sins by repenting while sailing on a sinking ship, on which both he and those with him will drown.

We are not talking about the Falasha's migration via Sudan to Israel, but about the migration of millions of Sudanese men and youths to various countries around the world fleeing poverty, destitution, unemployment, injustice, and a worsening situation.

Under the Numayri revolution, 8 million Sudanese left Sudan so that the regime could survive and the leader could be consecrated as a revolutionary president for life.

The regime, which forces its people out of their own country, boasts that it takes in millions of Ethiopian refugees for humanitarian reasons. It is unashamed of facilitating the exportation of Jewish settlers to Zionist settlements in our occupied territories.

This regime's failure has reached such a limit that it is unable to even protect itself from less capable ones and a neighboring Arab country had to dispatch its army to protect it. This disastrous regime did not only impoverish Sudan and bring about its bankruptcy, but also emptied it of its people by forcing them to leave. Also, it did not hesitate to plot against its own people.

The Sudanese people deserve a more honorable and honest regime — a regime that brings them back from the diaspora to their dear land where benevolence has been plunged since it became afflicted by a calamity disguised as revolution.

Numayri, UN Statements on Falashas Unjustified

JN232102 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 23 Jan 85 pp 1, 22

["A Thought" column by "Hakim": "The Excuse Is Worse Than the Offense"]

[Text] Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri cannot easily dissociate himself from his government's complicity in smuggling the Ethiopian Jews to Israel by declaring that he is not responsible for their destination after they leave Sudan. Likewise, the United Nations has no right to volunteer to help transfer the Falashas to any country if the Sudanese Government allows them to leave.

The information we have so far is that Sudan continues to be an Arab state and a member of the Arab League. If we remember correctly, this membership commits members not to help, directly or indirectly, in beefing up the Zionist entity, regardless of all pretexts and excuses. We do not believe that the Sudanese president, who is known for his skill in monitoring any movement on Sudanese territory, was ignorant of the airlifting of tens of thousands of Ethiopian Jews via Khartoum Airport or of these Jews' final destination, especially since everyone had been aware of Israel's painstaking efforts to transfer them to Israel.

Thus, Numayri's excuse that he is not responsible for these Jews' destination is very flimsy and unconvincing. It is worse than Numayri's offense itself.

Numayri's statement is serious, not because of what happened, but because of what will happen. There are still several thousand of these Jews in Sudan. If Numayri is serious in his statement to the *THE NEW YORK TIMES*, this means that he is still insisting on airlifting the rest of the Falashas to Israel, as long as there are European way stations to welcome them.

In this case, the Arab League and the Islamic states that are friendly with the Khartoum regime must draw Numayri's attention to the fact that he can neither justify transferring the Falashas to the Zionist entity under the pretext that they were traveling to Brussels or Amsterdam, nor continue claiming that he is an Arab and a holder of the banner of Islam.

As for the sudden new zeal shown by the UN High Commission for Refugees — a zeal that forced its Geneva representative to declare the UN ready to help transfer the Ethiopian Jews to any state other than Israel — it is both improper and suspicious. As we know, the United Nations has no right to deport people from their country to other countries, especially since their government neither expelled them nor gave them up. Moroever, the UN High Commission for Refugees is fully aware of the final destination of these refugees. Has the United Nations abandoned its task of repatriating the Palestinian refugees to their homeland, and began carrying out the task of filling a vacuum? We ask the UN secretary general this question, and hope to obtain an answer.

24 January Al-Naqurah Talks With Israel Reported

NC240919 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The morning session of the Lebanese-Israeli military negotiations began in Al-Naqurah at 1000. Lebanese delegation head Brigadier General Muhammad al-Hajj affirmed that the Lebanese Army is prepared to take over the Sidon area. He pointed out that the Lebanese response to the Israeli proposals is inspired by what Prime Minister Rashid Karami said at yesterday's Cabinet session.

The head of the Israeli delegation expressed the hope that the Lebanese response will be positive so that the discussion will move on to practical issues.

UN's Aime Departs Beirut for Israel 23 Jan

NC231317 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1309 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Jean-Claude Aime, UN assistant under secretary general for political affairs, has left for Israel following his talks in Beirut with Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ambassador Fu'ad al-Turk. The talks dealt with the 13th round of the Al-Naqurah talks. Aime said that UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart will return to Beirut this coming Friday to resume his mission to give momentum to the Al-Naqurah talks.

Karami Discusses Security, Al-Naqurah Talks

NC231607 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The Cabinet's weekly meeting, which began at 1045 today under the chairmanship of President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and with the participation of Prime Minister Rashid Karami and all of the ministers but Minister Walid Junblatt, ended at 1620.

Following the meeting, Prime Minister Karami made the following statement:

[Begin recording] [Karami] The Cabinet heard a report from the Army Command on the implementation of earlier measures and decisions, dealing both with the Beirut security plan and that for the coastal area, Iqlim al-Kharrub, and the south. The reports were both positive and satisfactory, inasmuch as the implementation is proceeding as planned.

We can assert that the Cabinet is following up on its decisions in an appropriate atmosphere, in view of the current anxiety produced by Israel's plans and efforts to incite sedition and create disturbances while pursuing its withdrawal. The recent incident in Sidon involving Brother Mustafa Sa'd and subsequent plots and attempts are known to all.

As for the Al-Naqurah talks, we consider Israel's proposals at the recent session to be incomplete and inconsistent with the position taken by Lebanon, which has from the outset requested that Israel present a clear and definite timetable for the stages of its withdrawal. Thereafter, we can take an appropriate position on our relationship and cooperation with the UN emergency forces, or rather, with the United Nations — a purely Lebanese affair and concerning no one else. Therefore, we insist that the Israelis present a clear and definite timetable for their withdrawal. These were our instructions to our delegation.

[Unidentified reporter] In regard to the Beirut security situation, are the Cabinet's decisions in this context being implemented in the field?

[Karami] The Military Command indicated that it is satisfied with the response to the decisions made. The measures are being well implemented in the field, in terms of the removal of barriers and barricades, the closure of party offices, and the elimination of gunmen and armed manifestations. All of this is being carried out in accordance with the plan. [end recording]

Sidon Deployment Plan Approved

NC231843 Paris AFP in English 1823 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Beirut, Jan 23 (AFP) — The Lebanese Cabinet today approved a plan to deploy about 1,000 soldiers in and around the southern city of Sidon (Saida) after the Israeli withdrawal, scheduled for completion in that area on February 18, reliable sources said.

The sources said that under the plan, three battalions of the Lebanese Army would set up 10 bases in the area, notably in each of the two Palestinian refugee camps of 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Miyawa Miya in Sidon, on the Al-Awwali River bridge north of the city and at the Al-Zahrani refinery, farther south.

Socialists Obstructing Security Plan

NC231202 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The Cabinet members are currently discussing the situation in the south following the scheduled Israeli withdrawal, the 22-January Al-Naqurah negotiations, the obstacles facing the implementation of the security plan for the coastal strip and Iqlim al-Kharrub, and the deteriorating security situation in West Beirut.

It has been learned that the Cabinet received reports from security organs indicating that Junblatt's gunmen are continuing to place obstacles in the way of the implementation of the coastal line plan. The reports add that Junblatt's followers in the area extending between Khaldah and Al-Damur have been spotted reinforcing their positions instead of eliminating their roadblocks and bunkers.

Al-Murabitun Takes Security Measures in Beirut

NC232125 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The Military Committee of the Al-Murabitun forces has issued this statement:

Following the open meetings of the Security and Military Liaison and Coordination Committee — including the independent Nasirite movement — Al-Murabitun forces, the Amal movement, the Progressive Socialist Party, and the 6th Brigade — which ran from Monday morning until Wednesday, a plan and timetable were drawn up to implement measures to guarantee security and stability for our citizens.

The first stage, which includes closing military offices and ending the armed presence in the streets, has begun. The committee declares its commitment to the agreements reached by the Liaison Committee. The Al-Murabitun forces began implementing the measures this morning.

The committee asks all forces concerned to contribute and suggest anything that might promote security and stability in the steadfast area of West Beirut.

Birri Leaves for Talks With Officials in Damascus
NC231608 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that, following today's Cabinet meeting, Minister Nabih Birri left for Damascus for talks with Syrian officials.

Junblatt on Israeli Forces' 'Redeployment'
JN231921 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] In an interview today with the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS*, which was attended by our radio and will be published tomorrow, Walid Junblatt stressed the need for the militias to withdraw from Iqlim al-Kharrub and for reinforcing the Army's role. He also stressed the need to implement what was agreed upon during the recent Lebanese-Syrian summit meeting.

On the Palestinian resistance's return to Lebanon, Junblatt said that such a return constitutes certain perils and might give Israel a pretext for carrying out certain operations. While affirming Palestinian rights, Junblatt affirmed that the return of the resistance should be carefully studied with the Palestinian National Alliance and Democratic Alliance, as well as with Syria, particularly since there are certain reactionary resistance sides that want to return only to consolidate the status quo, as he termed it.

In an another development, Junblatt emphasized that the term Israeli withdrawal is incorrect, that the operation is merely a redeployment of the Israeli forces. He added that the main issue in the Al-Naqurah talks is that Lebanon wants a timetable for the Israeli withdrawal, while Israel wants to merely redeploy its forces. Junblatt concluded that there is a major difference. He said he believes that Israel will embark on a unilateral operation, which will greatly endanger the areas to be vacated by Israel.

In an another development, we point out that Michel Samahah, Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's envoy and chairman of the board of directors of Lebanese television, has been in Damascus since yesterday. He is carrying out a series of important contacts with senior Syrian officials.

Israelis Dismantle Installations in South
NC240638 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Last night the Israeli forces completed dismantling the installations and prefabricated houses in Tallat Mar Ilyas and Sharhabil near Sidon. Large trucks transported the equipment to Al-Zahrani via Sidon.

Official sources have learned that Israel will implement a withdrawal next Saturday. Sources expect that Israel will withdraw its forces from Al-Awwali and Sidon to positions near Bisri.

Shells Hit Hospital in East Beirut
NC240707 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Attacks on schools have been followed by attacks on hospitals. Less than 48 hours after the crime of shelling the Furn al-Shubbak-'Ayn al-Rummanah area, which killed one person and wounded five others, most of them students, six artillery shells were randomly fired at 0705 today. Three of the shells hit the Hotel Dieu Hospital in East Beirut, wounding three people. One shell fell in the area of the Salmah al-Sayigh School, wounding one person. Another shell fell in the garden of Joseph al-Khuri's house on Al-Zahhar Street.

Lebanese Forces' Commander Dr Fu'ad Abu Nadir said in an interview yesterday that the purpose of shelling East Beirut is to create tension and prompt us to retaliate against West Beirut. We will not retaliate against West Beirut. Our response will come at the appropriate time and place.

Abu Nadir called on West Beirut leaders to take some action to stop what is happening to revive this country within a framework of coexistence.

ASALA's Threats to U.S., Turkey, France Cited
NC221018 Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 21 Jan 85 p 12

[Text] The Soviet Union continued its campaign against the Armenian Tashnag Party yesterday. Meanwhile, the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia [ASALA] has issued a statement in Beirut claiming that "Armenian reactionaries and opportunists will not escape its attacks."

In Moscow, the Soviet historian (R. Khorshodyan) has written an article for the newspaper *KOMMUNIST*, mouthpiece of the Armenian Communist Party, in which he notes that Tashnag has joined the hostile anti-Soviet campaign despite its promise not to take action against the existing regime in the Soviet Union. The historian, who is also a member of the Armenian Academy of

Sciences, added that "Tashnag has not changed its program, which ignores Armenia and seeks to divide the people of Armenian and the Soviet authorities." He said that Tashnag has resorted to all sorts of methods to conceal its anti-Soviet designs. The historian noted that the party drew up a program in 1981 in view of "the social changes that have occurred among Armenians abroad and the Soviet Union's increasing influence on it."

Karen Demirchyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, has accused Tashnag's leaders of placing themse' s at the service of U.S. imperialism. The accusation was made at the Central Committee's expanded meeting in Yerevan on 8 January.

On the 10th anniversary of its founding, ASALA issued a political statement in Beirut, affirming that "it is the sole legitimate representative of the Armenian people."

The statement says: "The agent leaders of Armenia's conservative parties, whose constant objective has been to spread despair among the Armenian masses, have ignored the anniversary of the birth of the Armenian Secret Army and its armed struggle. They have acted like ostriches, hiding their rotten heads in the sand... However, the continuing 10-year struggle has upset the dreams of those leaders and has proven that the birth of the Armenian Secret Army was the natural reply to the political bankruptcy of those parties."

The statement notes that "ASALA's relationship with the socialist bloc and with the progressive countries will be strengthened in the next stage... Strenuous efforts will be made to make Armenia a principal and firm center for the liberation struggle. The statement goes on to say that armed attacks will be organized inside and outside Turkey, and that painful blows will be dealt to Turkish fascism and all its representatives. U.S. capitalism, as well as Zionism and the French Government, will also be targets of our attacks... Similarly, Armenian reactionaries and opportunists will not escape our attacks."

It should be recalled that ASALA is competing with Tashnag and Hentchag for the support of Armenians abroad.

Al-Asad, Gambian President Resume Talks 23 Jan

JN231049 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpt] President Hafiz al-Asad and Gambian President Dawda Kairaba Jawara resumed talks at 1100 today.

Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'; Lamin Kiti Jabang, Gambian minister of external affairs; and Dr Omar Jah, Gambian ambassador in Jeddah; attended the meeting.

Saudi Ambassador to U.S. Arrives With Message

LD241059 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0903 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, 24 JAN (KUNA) — The ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Washington, Prince Bandar ibn Sultan arrived here today, Saudi diplomatic sources said Prince Bandar was carrying message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad concerning the current Arab situation Arab relations, and development in the Palestinian arena.

SANA: Junblatt, Abu Musa Meet in Damascus 22 Jan

JN231540 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1445 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, 23 Jan (SANA) — Brother Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], member of the Fatah Provisional Command and director of the Palestinian revolution forces central operations, met yesterday evening with brother Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party and the National Front in Lebanon.

WAFA said they exchanged views on recent developments in the Lebanese and Palestinian arenas in the wake of the Zionist invasion forces' partial withdrawal from Lebanon. They also exchanged views on the recent attempts by the enemy and its agents to explode the security situation in the nationalist areas — attempts which were recently represented by the criminal assassinationattempt against the nationalist leader, Mustafa Ma'ruf Sa'd.

They also discussed the necessary steps to confront the hostile schemes against nationalist Lebanon, its Arabism, and its unity. They had identical views on the joint issues they discussed.

TISHRIN Links Israel to Lebanese Explosions

JN231113 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 23 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] In its "Behind the News" corner, *TISHRIN* writes about the massacres Israel is committing against the Arab people saying: It is obvious that the enemy's leaders, stunned by their increasing losses and the failure of their schemes as a result of the pan-Arab stand of Syria, which has placed all its capabilities in Lebanon's service, and as a result of all the Lebanese sides' conviction that no progress can be made without close cooperation with Syria, have not yet admitted the failure of their hegemony and schemes.

What the enemy's leaders fear most is Lebanese stability and the impact it will have on the general Arab situation. They think that Lebanon's victory will foil the capitulatory settlement plan on the Jordanian-Palestinian front and will jeopardize the Camp David peace treaty concluded with the Cairo rulers. That is why they are escalating the war of explosions and booby-trapped cars in the Lebanese regions and preparing for massacres in the south in cooperation with their agents and militias which they supply with money and weapons. They certainly do not conceal the objectives behind these actions which are: depicting the Lebanese Government as impotent, paralyzing the Lebanese Army and internal security forces, and trying to convince the Lebanese that accord and reconciliation are impossible and consequently reviving the divisionist schemes on a purly sectarian basis.

TISHRIN adds: This is on the Lebanese level. On another level, they aim at preoccupying Syria in the whirlpool of Lebanese violence and at exhausting its efforts so that it cannot devote itself to the other urgent task of foiling the capitulatory plan being propagated by some Palestinian defeatists in coordination with the Jordanian and Egyptian regimes. From this perspective, the Israeli withdrawal seems to be an attempt to simultaneously achieve more than one objective. It is aimed at reducing losses as result of the Lebanese national resistance operations, at giving a free hand to the agent militias in the south so as to form a buffer zone that prevents the Lebanese Army from advancing and spreading legal sovereignty, at fomenting sedition in the south, and, if possible, at exploding the security situation in all Lebanon.

The newspaper concludes: Naturally the new situation requires a serious Lebanese stand and further Syrian-Lebanese coordination. This serious stand can be established by hardening the Lebanese stand, overcoming differences among the sides in the national unity government, uncovering Israel's agents in the arena who implement the internal explosions so that Israel's last card; namely, the card of explosions, will be foiled. The Syrian-Lebanese coordination, which has developed and gained strength during the past period, must confront the enemy's scheme in the south — the scheme of keeping the legitimate army away from the region and using UN forces to undermine Lebanese sovereignty.

Syria, which supported Lebanon throughout the past 10 years and prevented its fragmentation, will remain faithful to its obligations. It will even extend further support to foil the common enemy's schemes and help the fraternal country to achieve reconciliation, unity, and liberation.

Delegation Resumes Al-Naqurah Talks With Lebanon

TA240744 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0737 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Another round of talks between Israeli and Lebanese officers is scheduled to start now at Al-Naqurah. The head of the Israeli delegation to the talks, Brigadier General 'Amos Gilbo'a, expressed the hope that the Lebanese delegation would submit a reply to the Israeli proposals, and stressed that Israel wishes to hand the area to be evacuated by the IDF over to the Lebanese Army.

Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports that contrary to the demand of the Lebanese Government urging Israel to present a timetable for the withdrawal, the Israeli delegation contends that there is no such timetable and that the withdrawal will be carried out in phases, in keeping with the government's decision.

Details of New IDF Deployment Line Outlined

TA231045 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 23 Jan 85 p 2

[Report by military correspondent Alex Fishman]

[Excerpt] Within a few days, the IDF's advance units will deploy in the area they are meant to occupy along the new line in the western sector of southern Lebanon.

A top military source in southern Lebanon yesterday told the *'AL HAMISHMAR* correspondent that the features of the new line have been completed. The line passes from the area of Jazzin through the village of Sarba (northwest of Al-Nabatiyah), bypasses Al-Nabatiyah from the west, crosses the Al-Litani River in the direction of the Al-Qasimiyah bridge, and ends at the Al-Litani River mouth.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Withdrawal Advanced Talks

TA230923 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 23 Jan 85

[From the review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* writes that in yesterday's Al-Naqurah talks, Lebanon reiterated its former demands. However, its request to continue the talks tomorrow proves that the government's decision to withdraw the IDF has already advanced the talks. It appears that Syria and Lebanon are afraid that a vacuum will be created in the areas to be evacuated by the IDF and, therefore, even if no formal agreement is signed, it is indeed possible that practical arrangements will be achieved in the field.

Chief of Staff Views West Bank Violence

Denies Link With Withdrawal

TA231450 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1417 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi does not foresee a substantial rise in the disruptions to the public order in Judaea and Samaria as a result of the withdrawal from Lebanon. The chief of staff said that those who disrupt the public order in Judaea and Samaria will continue.

He can see little, if any, connection between the withdrawal and the security situation in Judaea and Samaria. Replying to a question by our correspondent Gil Ronen, the chief of staff confirmed that the possibility of reuniting the Civilian Administration and the military government is being reconsidered, in light of the budget cuts and the manpower slots in the IDF.

Holds Jordan Accountable

TA231525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The chief of staff [COS] believes that Jordan should cope with the problem of terrorist activities the PLO is perpetrating against Israel from Jordanian territory. According to him, the PLO's political entrenchment in Amman following the PNC session there may lead to pressures in the direction of practical activity. Jordan is required, as COS Moshe Levi stressed, to prevent hostile activity against the State of Israel. He was talking with our correspondent Arye Gus while he was touring the casbah in Nabulus.

Discusses Measures Against Disturbances

TA231836 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Report by Jerry Cheslow]

[Text] Chief of Staff General Moshe Levi today toured Samaria, speaking to Israeli officers, Jewish settlers, and local Arabs. In Nabulus he walked in the casbah area, which has been closed off following grenade incidents and the stoning of Israeli vehicles. Palestinian shopkeepers took the opportunity to ask Levi to reopen the area because their incomes are suffering. The chief of staff promised to consider the matter, but also said the residents had to realize that they could not endanger Israeli lives.

Turning to Jordan, Levi said that PLO influence in Amman has been on the rise since the PNC meeting, and if this influence is translated into anti-Israel actions from Jordanian territory, he said, Amman would have to prevent them.

The chief of staff denied claims by settlers that stonethrowing on the roads in the territories is on the rise. He said that statistics show the opposite. However, Levi felt that every effort had to be made to ensure that the roads are safe for travel.

Turning to the recent pro-PLO demonstration at Al-Najah University in Nabulus, Levi said that such actions would have to be taken into account when considering whether institutions should exist.

AL-'ANBA' on Anti-Israeli Acts

JN240747 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 24 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Prevention Is Better Than Cure," *AL-'ANBA'* says: We do not disagree with the chief of staff about holding Jordan responsible for any anti-Israeli activity from its territory. Neither do we disregard the possibility of a change in the organization [the PLO], through which negative elements exploit the situation to put pressure on the leadership to carry out hostile activities against Israel from Jordanian territory.

We cannot deny that the great efforts are being exerted by the Jordanian authorities to prevent inflitration from its territory to Israel to carry out armed acts. The Jordanian authorities have, on the whole, succeeded. However, the assassination of Fahd al-Qawasimi inside the Jordanian capital, despite the fact that the Jordanian security organs had information about the possibility of such an assassination, shows that there are weak points in Jordanian security.

AL-'ANBA' concludes: General Levi's statement is a reminder to all those who plan to launch such hostile activities against Israel, that the IDF will not remain silent, although it knows that Amman has nothing to do with such activities and that it is trying to prevent them.

Preparations From Tabah Talks With Egypt Viewed

Egypt May Toughen Stand

TA231041 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] The Israeli delegation to the Tabah talks will reject Egypt's request to discuss the issue of sovereignty over Tabah. According to the instructions to be given to the Israeli representatives to the talks in Beersheba, which are to begin on 27 January, they are ready to agree only to discuss the proposal to have the MFO enter Tabah in accordance with an interim arrangement, until the dispute is finally settled.

According to the Foreign Ministry's stand, Israel will reject Egypt's proposal to submit the dispute to arbitration. Israel first wants to pursue the process of direct negotiations or conciliation (which is not legally binding for the parties), claiming that this is the correct interpretation of the agreement between the two countries.

It has been learned that in the light of Israel's refusal to talk about the future of Tabah, hints are emanating from Egypt that difficulties may arise in Egypt's goodwill gestures on the missing *Daqar* submarine crew [which disappeared in 1968 off the Egyptian Mediterranean coast] and other matters which were meant to show Egypt's flexibility in the talks in Beersheba.

[Tel Aviv *'AL HAMISHMAR* in Hebrew on 23 January on page 2 carries a report by Dalya Shehori, entitled "Israel Is Asked To Absorb 6,000 Refugees From Rafah," which contains the following excerpt: "Egypt is demanding that Israel absorb 6,000 Palestinian refugees from the Canada refugee camp near Rafah, who found themselves on the Egyptian side of the border after the return of Sinai in 1982, and were consequently cut off from their families. Israel will be prepared to absorb these refugees for humanitarian reasons."]

Egyptian Media Treatment Scored

TA231149 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] On the eve of the resumption of the Tabah talks between Israel and Egypt in Beersheba on 27 January, this morning a coordination meeting was held in the Foreign Ministry between the heads of the Israeli delegation and the U.S. representatives to the negotiations.

Our political correspondent reports that in addition to matters concerning Tabah and other affairs slated to be raised, the Israeli delegation intends to protest the anti-Israeli and anti-Jewish publications recently relayed by the Egyptian media, and the harrassment of Israeli boats sailing along the Sinai coast.

Further on Preparations

TA231736 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] In the talks with Egypt in Beersheba at the beginning of next week, Israel will emphasize that a solution of technical problems which concern the Israeli-Egyptian border is involved, not substantive problems, as claimed by Egypt.

Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the U.S. ambassador to Israel, with a team of U.S. State Department jurists, today held a discussion with a senior team of the Jerusalem Foreign Ministry on matters which will be raised in the talks with Egypt.

Hostile Egyptian Remarks Questioned

TA240544 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Israel's ambassador to Egypt will ask the Foreign Ministry in Cairo for an explanation of the remarks made by the Egyptian foreign minister to a Kuwaiti newspaper, that Egyptian representatives would never again visit Jerusalem.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer has learned that in an assessment presented to Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, it is stated that as a result of Israel's participation in the book fair, there has been a rising wave of anti-Israel activity and publications, the like of which has not been seen since Sabra and Shatila. According to this assessment, this may prevent the Egyptian Government from developing peace contacts with Israel, even if it wants to do so.

MFO Function Needs Definition

TA240755 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 24 Jan 85 pp 1, 3

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Asher Wallfish]

[Excerpt] Israeli security agencies will continue to operate as before in the Tabah zone south of Elat, if agreement is reached with Egypt about the introduction of the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) into the disputed area.

The entry of MFO units would not detract from the functions of the Israel Police and Border Police in any way, officials in Jerusalem told the diplomatic press corps yesterday, in advance of the talks between Israeli and Egyptian delegations to open on Sunday in Beersheba.

Since the two countries are at loggerheads about the sovereignty over Tabah and are also at loggerheads about how to resolve the sovereignty issue, the introduction of the MFO into the zone is no more than a provisional arrangement. The obstacle to its implementation was the definition of the MFO's security functions.

The main purpose of the talks will be to attain a common definition of "security" in the Tabah zone, the officals said. Israel and Egypt agreed on April 25, 1982, that they would both invite the MFO to put units into the zone "to maintain security," but have never done so.

The problem is that ever since, Egypt and Israel have been quarrelling about the definition, with Egypt maintaining that the MFO should be responsible for Tabah's internal law and order, among other things.

The officals said: "We would not assume that the MFO would agree to take on the duties of a policeman and be respondible for law and order. What we would assume is that the MFO would agree to do in Tabah what it does everywhere else, namely see that other forces do not enter the area. The presence of the MFO would not detract from any of the existing activities in Tabah.

The officials, who stressed that Israel is very gratified at the resumption of the talks (last held at Ismailia, Egypt in March 1983), said they hoped the Beersheba meeting would signal the resumption of a dialogue.

Yitzhaq Shamir on Relations With Egypt

TA231750 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Amnon Nadav at the Herut headquarters in Tel Aviv "a few minutes ago" — recorded]

[Text] [Nadav] Mr Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, how would you define relations with Egypt now, against the background of the latest events?

[Shamir] We are about to enter talks with them on Sunday. I hope these talks will contribute toward some improvement in relations in the near future. To this moment I cannot see a substantial improvement, or change, in the fabric of relations which we all describe as a cold peace, or a peace without real normalization. However, I can discern some degree of desire, or political trend in Egypt, to point to some improvement. I must say that reports on statements made recently by officials, conflict with the trend they want to highlight; one case in point is the latest declaration by the Egyptian foreign minister, who told a Kuwaiti newspaper, I believe, that the decision to boycott Jerusalem and never visit it, is final and eternal, that it will never be visited. I cannot see how such a declaration can harmonize with a trend to improve relations.

There are other signs as well. We have already gotten used to them. This is a daily occurrence — the vituperative propaganda published by the Egyptian press against Israel, against the Jewish people, or the Jewish religion. I believe all these are indications that peace is still far away. Nevertheless, as a country desirous of peace with its neighbors, we will do our best — without harming our interests, of course — to bring about an improvement in relations.

On Arab, U.S. Ties

TA232038 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2020 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Tel Aviv, 23 Jan (ITIM) — Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this evening addressed the national conference of the Herut Movement academics branch, held at Bet Jabotinksy in Tel Aviv, and demanded that Egypt return its ambassador to Israel so that the people of Israel will have faith in its desire to improve bilateral relations.

He said that if the reason Egypt recalled its ambassador from Israel was a tragic incident in Lebanon, then today, after Israel had decided to bring the IDF back home, Egypt should no longer delay and return its ambassador.

The foreign minister reacted also to the statements by Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid, published in an Arab newspaper, that "there will never be a visit to Jerusalem." Mr Shamir asked whether such a statement could be construed as an improvement in relations.

The foreign minister said that Israel is embarking on talks with Egypt because Israel wants to deepen peaceful relations with Egypt, and does not want the vast investment it has made in peace to come to nothing. Israel has done a lot to promote bilateral relations, but this was not reciprocated by the same attitude and the same policy. Mr Shamir said that it is now necessary to worry about normalization between Israel and Egypt, too. Israel will take measures to improve the ties, but real peace must be mutual, not one-sided, because there is no such thing as a unilateral peace.

The foreign minister appealed to the Arab countries, and said that Israel wants peace with them; but if they want peace, as well, they must overcome two obstacles:

A. The close ties with the murderous organization called the PLO. "We are saying this to Jordan, because close ties with the PLO obstruct the course of peace, and Jordan must free itself of it."

B. The illusion that Israel will ever return to the 1949 borders.

The foreign minister added that in discussing Soviet Jewry, one cannot refrain from mentioning Israeli-U.S. relations. He said that this is the first time the U.S. Administration has decided to join the demand to release the Soviet Jews, open the departure gates, and grant freedom to Jews in the Soviet Union.

The foreign minister recalled that during the Shultz-Gromyko talks in Geneva, the U.S. secretary of state raised the plight of Soviet Jews. Mr Shultz regarded this not only as part of the global U.S. policy, but also as part of U.S.-Israeli relations. He furthermore dispatched a special emissary to Israel to report on the content of the Geneva talks.

Shamir on Support for Soviet Jewry

TA231516 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Knesset Member [MK] Ge'ula Kohen raised a motion to the agenda today demanding that the resumption of the talks between the United States and the Soviet Union be made conditional on Soviet agreement to allow Jewish emigration. Our correspondent in the Knesset Hayim Zissowitz sums up the debate:

[Begin recording] [Zissowitz] MK Ge'ula Kohen has demanded that the opportunity presented by the Shultz-Gromyko talks be used to lead to the opening of Soviet gates to those Jews who want to emigrate. The Soviet Union is the most dangerous enemy of the State of Israel by virtue of its being a center of anti-Jewish terror, MK Kohen said.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir supported Ge'ula Kohen's opinion that we should persist, and increase support for Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union. When Western public opinion was enlisted for this struggle, it bore fruit.

[Shamir] The Soviet authorities understood that to improve its relations with the West, it is worth their while to alleviate the suffering of its Jews and to partly open the gates of their country.

[Zissowitz] Shamir also touched on the political aspect of this issue in his remarks, making it clear that Israel rejects Soviet involvement in attempts to reach peace accords in the Middle East.

[Shamir] Israel is opposed — and will remain opposed — to imported solutions being worked out by external elements behind our backs.

[Zissowitz] The HADASH MK's were not present in the Knesset hall. Citizens Rights Movement [CRM] MK Sarid violated the traditional concensus on this issue, but finally, with the CRM's opposition, the issue was tranferred to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee for a discussion. [end recording]

Jerusalem Downplays Dobrynin-Rosenne Meeting

TA231024 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 23 Jan 85 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] No change can be expected in the Soviet Union's stand toward Israel or in bilateral relations. This was said by top officials in Jerusalem to the *DAVAR* correspondent yesterday in reaction to reports about the short meeting between Anatoliy Dobrynin, the Soviet ambassador in Washington, and Israeli Ambassador Me'ir Rosenne, during a party celebrating Reagan's inauguration.

The officials emphasized that Dobrynin is the doyen of the diplomatic corps and protocol requires him to meet his colleagues, the other ambassadors, and to maintain courteous relations with them during receptions. They added that this was not the first time that Israeli and Soviet ambassadors have met in the United States and other countries at informal social occasions and exchanged polite words.

However, Foreign Ministry officials expect to hear a detailed report on the 15-minute talk that was held between Dobrynin and Rosenne. The officials in Jerusalem believe that because the meeting was held in front of television cameras this proves that there was no hidden intention or serious political initiative behind it.

Promise to France on Reactor Deal Denied

TA231119 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Jan 85 p 2

[Report by Yare'ah Tal and Paris-based correspondent Yo'av Tocker]

[Excerpts] Following the report in the *NEW SCIENTIST* periodical — quoted in the *HA'ARETZ* edition of 19 January — saying that Israel has promised France that it would not bomb the nuclear reactor in Iraq in exchange for receiving two nuclear reactors, Knesset Member Mati Peled (of the Progressive List for Peace) yesterday submitted a request that the Knesset hold an urgent session on the subject of the Middle East nearing a nuclear "balance of horror." He submitted his request to Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hillel.

Yo'av Tocker, our correspondent in France, reports that 2 days ago, French Government officials reacted to this with considerable suspicion, but refrained from explicitly denying the report in the *NEW SCIENTIST*.

The officials termed the report "highly speculative," but did not officially deny it. They stressed that "the French Government is not in the habit of reacting to such reports."

The report published in the *NEW SCIENTIST* has officially been denied in Jerusalem.

Accord With FRG To Reach Third Countries

TA231016 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 23 Jan 85 p 2

["Exclusive" report from Germany by Ze'ev Struminsky]

[Text] Israel intends to use a joint agricultural research agreement with Germany as a political lever to reach third countries who shy away from direct relations with Israel. This has been learned by the *DAVAR* correspondent.

The agreement was signed yesterday by Israeli Agriculture Minister Arye Nehamkin and his German counterpart Ignaz Kieschle. Nehamkin arrived in Germany yesterday.

The agreement states the regulations for cooperation in agricultural research and development. The agreement actually talks about tightening and extending existing relations, stipulating the guidelines in writing.

Israel wants to benefit from the distribution of the results of its agricultural research, and this agreement is meant to serve as an aid for this.

Hong Kong Consulate To Resume Activities

TA231008 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] The Israeli Consulate in Hong Kong will soon resume its activities; this was decided at the 20 January Cabinet session, but it was decided not to publicize it. Since the Israeli consul to Hong Kong was recalled 10 years ago, a Jewish figure there Victor (Zirinaky), has acted as honorary consul to represent Israel's interests. Therefore, Israel does not need official confirmation from the Hong Kong authorities to appoint a new consul

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir recommended that the Cabinet approve the appointment of an Israeli diplomat (the reference is probably to a consul only, without aides), to establish facts in anticipation of Hong Kong's return to China in 1997. In this manner, Israel will be represented in the PRC. According to the agreement signed between China and Britain, representations in Hong Kong of countries not maintaining ties with the PRC will enjoy a semi-official status.

The Foreign Ministry's top appointment committee will soon convene to decide on the candidate whom it will recommend to the Cabinet. Foreign Ministry sources said the consulate will maintain a low profile so as not to anger the Chinese authorities.

Foreign papers have recently carried reports on trade ties between Israel and the PRC, and therefore the presence of an Israeli diplomat in Hong Kong is especially important. It is expected that the new consul will open new channels for contacts with the PRC and will work mainly to promote Israeli exports to the area. Several months ago Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche visited the Far East, where he talked with several heads of state and senior officials on strengthening trade ties with Israel. Jerusalem hopes that the resumption of activities in the Hong Kong consulate, closed due to budget cuts, will contribute to this.

Agreement Reached on Second Economic Package Deal

TA232118 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] An agreement was achieved at the Prime Minister's Office tonight on the next economic package deal and the price rises it will involve. Our correspondent Menahem Friedman reports that the package deal will be for a period of 8 months, but there will be an option to change it after 5 months. During the 1st month of the deal, the prices of products not subsidized will go up by an average of 5 percent. During the 2nd month, the prices of unsubsidized products will increase between 3 to 5 percent. The subsidy for all types of fuel, including fuel for industry, will be totally cancelled, and fuel prices will go up as of tonight by an average of 34 percent. The price of water will go up by 50 percent as of tonight. The prices of the other subsidized commodities, including electricity, are going up by 25 percent as of tonight. In the following months, the average increase of general prices will be restricted to 25 percent.

In the upcoming salary, salaried workers will receive compensation for the price increases, at the rate of 6,575 shekels. In addition, wage earners will receive a 5 percent tax relief monthly. Those who receive allowances will get the compensation through the National Insurance Institute, while retired people who belong to retirement funds will receive compensation through these funds.

Shahal on Purchase of Oil in 1984

TA231723 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Last year Israel purchased 8 million tons of oil. Next year it will be possible to spend less money on the oil due to a decline in its price on the world market. The energy and infrastructure minister said this to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee today. Minister Shahal noted that Israel will buy oil on the Rotterdam market, from Egypt, Mexico, Norway, and Colombia. Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that Israel will shortly sign an agreement with a group of investors from Texas on the establishment of a power plant for the production of energy from oil shale. Some $200 million will be invested in the power plant.

IDF Expropriates 200 Dunams in Gaza Strip

TA231055 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by Yehuda Litani]

[Text] On 21 January the IDF expropriated approximately 200 dunams in the Gaza Strip, in the area called (Qurum al-Lawz) in Wadi Ghazzah, south of the town.

Security sources said yesterday that the reference is to state-owned land, which over the past few years has been gradually taken over by local residents and used for agriculture. The IDF

used bulldozers; local residents say that dozens of olive trees, fig trees, and vines were destroyed. The 'Arafat, (Hija), and (Al-Wahidi) families in Gaza claim that the lands have been their property for decades.

The East Jerusalem paper *AL-FAJR* yesterday reported that the Civilian Administration in Gaza intends to continue these activities: Another 150 dunams of land in the (Qurum al-Lawz) area belonging to the Al-'Alami and Dallul families — here, too, reference is to agricultural areas where olive trees, fig trees, and vines are grown — as well as land on the campus of the Islamic University in Gaza will be expropriated by the authorities.

Security sources said yesterday that they are now in the process of an operation termed as retrieving state-owned land in the Gaza Strip, similar to the operation carried out in the West Bank last year.

'Grave' Sentences Handed Down to Terrorists

TA231139 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The Haifa District Court has handed down grave sentences to five members of the espionage and terrorist network, which had intended to explode a car near the Shalom Tower in Tel Aviv. Our correspondent Gershon Meller reports that a life sentence was handed down to Farid ('Abd al-Khalak) of Lebanon, and 15 years in prison to (Quaykash Quaykash) of the village of Yirka. Both of them were convicted of aiding the enemy in its struggle against Israel. Ten years in prison were given to two other squad members, and 9 years to another defendant. Salah (Quaykash), who was supposed to be the head of the network in Israel, was sent for psychiatric observation. Security measures at the Haifa Court were increased during the trial.

Briefs

Senior Police Appointment — Police Affairs Minister Hayim Bar-Lev has appointed Deputy Commander Levi Sha'ul to the post of the commanding officer of the Police Northern District instead of Commander Rahamim Hadad, who is leaving his post due to contacts with a journalist. Sha'ul Levi will assume his new post on 1 February and will be promoted to the rank of commander. [Summary] [*Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 22 Jan 85 p 2 TA*]

Unemployment Figures for 1984 — Unemployment in the country has gone up by one-third in the past 3 months, and by 73 percent over the last year. This according to the head of the Histadrut's Employment Department Gid'on Ben-Yisra'el. Ben-Yisra'el said that according to Histadrut figures, 120,000 people are now without jobs. The areas worst affected are development towns and Haifa. [Summary] [*Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 23 Jan 85 TA*]

Morocco, Djibouti Return Following OATUU Walkout
AB231205 Dakar PANA in English 1051 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, 23 Jan (NAN/PANA) — Morocco and Djibouti delegates at the fourth congress of the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) yesterday resumed their participation in the meeting after walking out earlier in the day. The resumption followed the intervention of the officials of the Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC). Morocco walked out because of the presence of the representatives of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR).

Moroccan delegates spokesman, Mr Eddebbah, told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) that their resumption was as a result of assurances by the NLC leadership that the SADR was not invited to the congress as members. The Djibouti delegates, led by Mr Ahmd Usman, who withdrew because of the non-hoisting of their national flag, also took their seats after the flag was hoisted. The NLC general-secretary, Mallam Aliyu Dangiwa, said that the flag was not hoisted because it was not available Monday when the congress started. "We had to quickly make a flag before we could get the delegates back to their seats," he said.

The congress on Monday headed for a crisis following the non-inclusion of Morocco in the list of an 11 member-nations credential committee set up to determine membership rights and participant's power to vote at the election of the organisation's executives. The crisis followed Morocco's insistence on being a member of the committee which comprised Senegal, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Mauritania, Ghana, Cameroon, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Tanzania and Gabon.

Mr Eddebbah said that the criteria for membership were "unacceptable" impositions. Stating the criteria for selection, Mr Dennis Akumu, OATUU's secretary-general, said that an eligible member must be up-to-date in its financial contribution to the organisation, have a single central labour organisation and must not be affiliated to any international labour organisation besides OATUU. Mr Akumu said that Morocco had more than one central labour organisation hence it could not be a member of that committee. In spite of the intervention of the congress chairman, Alhaji Ali Chiroma, the matter remained unresolved.

Speaking to newsmen later, Mr Akumu said that Morocco's insistence on membership of the committee was prompted by its fear that Algeria, a member, might sponsor SADR's bid for membership of OATUU.

The Morocco spokesman told newsmen that although Morocco had three central labour organisations at home, it had merged into one for the purpose of OATUU, hence they could participate in the committee.

Morocco Withdraws Candidature
AB231629 Lagos NAN in English 1627 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, Jan 23 (NAN) — The Moroccan delegation at the congress of the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) in Lagos has withdrawn its candidature from the congress' credentials committee, a spokesman for the delegation told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) today.

The withdrawal followed a compromise agreement which allows Morocco to participate at the committee meetings as observer, according to the spokesman. "It is not our intention to immobilise the congress on this matter," the spokesman said. The chairman of the Nigeria Labour Congress, Alhaji Ali Chiroma, confirmed that the matter had been settled behind closed doors.

The Moroccan delegation yesterday stagged a walk-out in protest against the presence of the SADR delegation at the conference. The delegation later rejoined the congress when it was explained that SADR was attending the conference as an observer.

Activities of the congress continued today with the presentation of reports by specialised agencies and the organisation's secretary-general, Mr Dennis Akumu, at a closed session.

ALGERIA

Further Reportage on Visit of Saudi Crown Prince

Meets With Prime Minister

LD231402 Riyadh SPA in English 1217 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Algiers, Jan 23, SPA — Crown Prince 'Abdallah, the deputy premier and commander of the National Guard, conferred here today with Algerian Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi.

The meeting was attended by Saudi Health Minister Faysal al-Hujaylan, Industry and Electricity Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz Zamil.

The Algerian side included Energy Minister Belkacem Nabi, Health Minister Kamal al-Din Houhou, Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Bourkan and Deputy Finance Minister Moustapha Amar.

On the other hand, Crown Prince 'Abdallah's visit received great attention, both at government and public levels. The Algerian press welcomed the visit and highlighted the Kingdom's close ties with Algeria.

Algerian dailies *AL-SHA'B* and *EL-MOUJHAHID* front-paged the remarks made by Crown Prince 'Abdallah about the Arab causes and the international oil situation as well as Saudi-Algerian relations. The papers noted that the crown prince had very intelligently diagnosed challenges facing the Arab and Islamic nation and gave appropriate solutions for them. They noted the existing strong relations between Algeria and Saudi Arabia.

Confers With President Bendjedid

LD231742 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1545 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Algiers, 23 Jan (SPA) — Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid conferred at noon today with Crown Prince, Deputy Premier, and National Guard Commander His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud who is currently visiting Algeria.

The situation in the Arab arena and bilateral relations were reviewed at the meeting.

Hosts Dinner for Prime Minister

LD232314 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2050 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Algiers 23 Jan (SPA) — Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy premier, and commander of the National Guard, gave a dinner banquet today in honor of Algerian Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi.

The banquet was also attended by members of the Algerian Government and members of the diplomatic corps in Algiers, and by members of the delegation accompanying the Saudi crown prince.

Cooperation Agreement Signed With Finland

PM231946 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 20 Jan 85 p 1

[APS report: "Creation of Joint Commission"]

[Text] Algiers — A ceremony was held at the Trade Ministry yesterday afternoon at which an Algerian-Finnish cooperation agreement was signed.

The agreement was signed for the Algerian side by Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Mohamed Aberkane, and for the Finnish side by Trade Minister Jermu Laine [title as published] in the presence of the secretary general of the Finnish Trade Ministry, the Finnish ambassador in Algiers, and senior Trade Ministry officials.

The agreement signed by the two countries stipulates the establishment of relations and the strengthening of cooperation in the spheres of agriculture, forestry, water resources, light industry, energy, and the pulp and paper industries.

It should also be remembered that the Algerian-Finnish talks were crowned by the formation of a joint commission between the two countries.

The agreement signed between the two countries is not limited to the financial, economic, and commercial spheres, but also makes provision for its expansion to the cultural sphere, through the organization of cultural weeks and the exchange of movies about the two countries.

The Finnish trade minister took this opportunity to praise Algeria in particular for its enormous achievements in the sphere of development.

EL MOUDJAHID on Polisario, Maghreb Summit

PM231027 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 16 Jan 85 p 1

[O. Khaled article: "The Question of a Maghreb Summit"]

[Text] There have been many articles in the international press in the past few days discussing the eventual possibility of a Maghreb summit. At the same time there have been many exchange visits among prominent officials in the Maghreb capitals, a diplomatic shuttle which has caught the attention of observers. Public opinion is asking questions and wondering what to think.

It is necessary to repeat that Algeria is bound to support any initiative which makes a real and effective contribution to building the Greater Maghreb. This ideal is dear to the Algerian people, particularly to the generation that brought about the events of 1 November [1954 Algerian revolt against France], and it was fed by the fraternity among Maghrebians in the fight against colonialist oppression. Let us also recall that the proposal for a Maghreb summit was made by President Chadli Bendjedid

himself 2 years ago in May 1983, on the eve of the official visit of [Tunisian] President Habib Bourguiba to Algeria. Taking the opportunity of the Supreme Combatant's arrival in Algiers, the president of the republic invited the Maghreb heads of state to an informal meeting to promote the Maghreb cause. Only Morocco replied to this invitation.

It seems that President Chadli Bendjedid's idea is now being revived. This calls for some explanations. First, it is important to realize that a meeting, even if it is a summit, is not an end in itself and is not an independent objective. Instead, it can only be a means to an end; in this case a means of making a real contribution to building a Maghreb, which is our goal. Hence, the vital need — in order not to dash the hopes of the Maghreb masses — for thorough preparation as a precondition for success. It is necessary to avoid improvisation and haste and to ensure a serious attitude and efficacy. The building of the Maghreb is not a propaganda exercise but a historical milestone which will determine the future of the peoples concerned.

And since the aim is to build the Maghreb, is it possible to limit an examination of what is now the main obstacle? Algeria has always said this, and the present situation merely confirms it: the Western Sahara conflict is clearly the root of the Maghreb problem. Attempts to hinder the Saharan people from exercising their right to self-determination and the resulting fratricidal conflicts all contribute to instability and create obstacles for building the Greater Maghreb, an impetus that has been destroyed in the bloodstained sands of northwest Africa. The question cannot be avoided.

Since a Maghreb summit must necessarily tackle the Western Sahara question, how can it possibly be considered in the absence of the Saharan people's legitimate representatives? In one way or another the Polisario, the sole embodiment of Saharan aspirations, must be able to express at a Maghreb summit the will of the people if represents. This is how we can reach a just and lasting settlement to the conflict — a settlement which will pave the way for many grandiose plans for building a Greater Maghreb.

In these circumstances and taking account of this desire for objectivity and efficacy, a Maghreb meeting might be capable of making progress toward unity. Algeria, for its part, is always ready — is there any need to repeat this — to approve and support any unequivocal and practical move in the direction of building the Greater Arab Maghreb, which remains one of the foundations of its policy and one of its oldest and most burning ambitions.

LIBYA

APS: Al-Qadhdhafi 'Ready' To Meet Mubarak, Reagan

LD232247 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpts] London 23 Jan (APS) — Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has expressed his readiness to hold a meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak "to discuss the possibility of President Mubarak abandoning the Camp David accords and severing relations with Israel." In an interview with the Saudi magazine *AL-TADAMUN*, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi also says he is ready to meet U.S. President Ronald Reagan and open a dialogue with him "so that Washington may remain neutral and abandon its hostility to the Jamahiriyah."

The Libyan president voiced his support for the convocation of an Arab summit "even once a month on the basis that the Arab leaders stick to the promises and resolutions that will be adopted at such summits."

Regarding the Iraq-Iran war, Col al-Qadhdhafi underlines the great efforts he has made within this context, saying that the Iranians "have rejected his call for an end to armed conflict because they believe they are not the side that started the war."

With regard to the Palestinian question, the Libyan leader mentions the material and military assistance he has extended to the Palestinians which he says amounts to one billion dollars. He urges the Palestinians to adopt "trenches not hotels" as a slogan.

The Libyan president denies the existence of any major problem between him and Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat.

Al-Qadhdhafi Comments on Chad, W. Europe

PM231131 Paris LE MONDE in French 23 Jan 85 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Mr Mitterrand a 'Secondary Enemy'"]

[Text] Colonel al-Qadhdhafi has said he wants to settle the Chad problem and is prepared to "support any peaceful settlement which would bring all the opposing sides around the same table." In an interview granted to the Arabic newspaper *KULL AL-'ARAB* to be published in Paris on 23 January, the Libyan leader nonetheless said: "We will not allow anybody to attack us from Chad..., because our security and that of our borders depends on this."

After recalling that Libya maintained "good relations with the Chadian people," he said that the Libyans "are in the same trench as Goukouni Oueddei's government," adding: "President Hissein Habre, who is hostile to us, is at present besieged on all sides, and I think he will fall."

Referring to his recent meetings with President Mitterrand and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, Col al-Qadhdhafi described them as "blows against the United States, Ronald Reagan in particular, since the Arabs can form temporary alliances with secondary enemies to confront the main enemy." The Libyan leader said that those meetings "had to take place because they were aimed at strengthening ties between Libya and the socialist regimes in Western Europe." These approaches, he said, "are likely to promote cooperation between those regimes and the Arabs and to have a positive effect on security in the Mediterranean."

PDRY Foreign Minister Departs Tripoli 23 Jan

LD232132 Tripoli JANA in English 1855 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Tripoli, 4 Jumada Awal, 23 Jan, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, minister of foreign affairs in the PDRY, left Tripoli with his accompanying delegation this afternoon on the completion of a several days visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Foreign Minister Visits Turkey, Holds Talks

For Ankara coverage of the visit to Turkey by Foreign Minister 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, including his talks with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu, and President Kenan Evren on developing relations between the two countries, see the Turkey section of the 24 January Western Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

MOROCCO

Official Confirms Hassan To Visit Western Sahara

LD241207 Rabat MAP in English 1201 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] El Aaiun, Jan 23 (MAP) — King Hassan II of Morocco will celebrate the festivities marking the anniversary of his coming to the throne in the Moroccan Saharan town of El Aaiun, announced M. Driss Basri, Moroccan minister of the interior, during a meeting here Tuesday.

The Moroccan minister precised that the sovereign's visit and stay in El Aaiun and the ceremonies to be held here on this occasion will be the dazzling proof to the whole world, and especially to Morocco's adversaries, of the doubtless, authentic and irreversible Moroccanity of the Sahara. March 3d, said M. Basri, will witness a new green march with the whole country participating to give further proof of national unity and the unanimity of the Moroccan people on the irreversible Moroccanity of the Sahara. Indeed, went on M. Basri, all the sons of the Sahara including those living in the northern provinces will come here to renew their allegiance to the sovereign.

The Moroccan minister announced in this respect that a national commission chaired by the secretary general of the Ministry of the Interior will be ceaselessly meeting with the governors of the four Saharan provinces (El Aaiun, Semara, Bojador, and Oued Eddahab[spelling of last name as received]) and Limitrophe provinces to secure the preparation of this historic visit.

SUDAN

AL-RA'Y: Embassy in Amman To Be Reopened

JN240736 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 24 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] Amman — *AL-RA'Y* has learned that Sudan has decided to reopen an independent embassy in Amman. It has also been learned that the Sudanese Government has nominated its ambassador to Jordan. Sudan closed its Amman embassy about 2 years ago.

SUNA Reports Numayri Speech in Barbar

JN231206 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Barbar, Sudan, 23 Jan (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri addressed the Sudanese people from Barbar, the capital of Nile Province today. President Numayri arrived in Barbar today to inaugurate several new installations in the province.

President Numayri greeted Barbar citizens and spoke about Barbar's history of struggle. He reaffirmed the revolution's conviction of the people's rule within the framework of local popular government and regional government. He said that God's law is the only option for believers in God. He said that it is also Sudan's option.

President Numayri spoke about the enemies' evil plots against the homeland's unity. He stressed Sudan is strong through Islam and through its revolution's principles. President Numayri announced that the revolution will fight all those who attempt to undermine Sudan's unity in defense of the revolution and Islam. Numayri said that through the execution of the greatest heretic Satan and by the return of most of his followers to the fold of Islam, the revolution has achieved a dear victory. He said that the revolution has affirmed its commitment to God's path and raised the banners of monotheism. He added that God's enemies have been defeated, and stressed that there will be no place for Satan's agents in Sudan.

President Numayri pointed out that construction of the homeland can only take place through the independence of its resources. He referred to the establishment of the Higher Council for National Economy. He said: We must implement economic policies no matter how tough these policies are. He said that building the homeland's economy can only take place through work, production, and sacrifice. The president called on the northern region's citizens to cultivate the land and increase production of wheat, legumes and vegetables. He also recommended cooperative societies in the field of agriculture.

SSU Pledges Support for Numayri, Armed Forces

EA231215 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The Sudanese Socialist Union (SSU) Permanent Secretariat has published a statement addressed to the struggling Sudanese people in which it stresses the role of political order, organizations and masses at this stage through which the country is passing. The text of the statement follows:

The Permanent Secretariat of the SSU, out of its conviction and belief in the role of political order, organizations and masses at the critical stage through which our homeland is passing, addresses this statement to the masses to affirm the SSU's support for President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri in assuming his historic responsibility for fighting against destructive thoughts and attempts by the outlaws to fragment social ties and [words indistinct] relations.

In implementing, following, and being committed to the heroic leader's decisions, the SSU Permanent Secretariat affirms that it will (?cleanse) the internal front of every alien thought and lackey traitor. While the SSU Permanent Secretariat assumes this strong and firm stand, it declares its pride in the heroic action carried out by the People's Armed Forces in protecting national unity from the outlaws in the south. This is out of its conviction that the Armed Forces are reviving the historic heroism which has been implanted in the Sudanese fighter throughout history, struggles and battles [words indistinct] his duties and national tasks.

While recording the People's Armed Forces heroic stands, the SSU Permanent Secretariat declares its readiness to support the Armed Forces in all that is dictated by their combat and national role at this stage, and to affirm the cohesion of the masses with their Armed Forces and to express the (?gratitude) of the sons of the Sudanese people as a whole [words indistinct].

The SSU Permanent Secretariat [words indistinct] and organizations [words indistinct] no compromise [words indistinct], declares that there will be no compromise in [words indistinct], the word of God on earth (?in accordance with) God's law and [words indistinct]. It declares its commitment to the revolution's principles, beliefs, guidance [words indistinct]. There will be no apostasy from the path of revolution, no opportunity for the return of [words indistinct] events, no place for the elements that have withdrawn from the masses of the revolution. [passage indistinct]

While the SSU Permanent Secretariat addresses this statement to the struggling Islamic masses, it reminds the brothers who are carrying arms in the south of the president's initiative for dialogue as a means to resolving conflicts. The fighting path is a dead end, and the People's Armed Forces which have the backing of the masses will not hesitate in striking against all outlaws and every apostate obstructing the people's unity and the cohesion of its internal front.

The Permanent Secretariat announces on behalf of the masses of the [words indistinct] alliance forces and the masses of people as a whole, its indignation and condemnation of attempts by foreign forces and their hostile practices of (?attacking) the positions of our forces with aircraft and missiles. [passage indistinct]

Radio SPLA Claims 45 Prison Officers Defect

EA231744 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] More defectors from organized forces continue to arrive at SPLA camps in the operational zones.

According to the Radio SPLA correspondent accompanying SPLA forces in Bahr Al Gazal administrative area, 45 members of prison force in Rumbek have reported to Rhino Battalion. The commander of Rhino Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel Martin Markor also welcomed them to SPLA-SPLM.

TUNISIA

APS: Bourguiba Receives Visiting Algerian Minister

LD231628 Algiers APS in English 1346 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Tunis, 23-01-85 (APS) — The Tunisian president of the republic, Mr Habib Bourguiba, audienced today in Tunis Mr Abdelmadjid Mezian, minister of culture and tourism, in an official visit in Tunisia since last Monday.

In a declaration to the press at the end of the audience, Mr Abdelmadjid Mezian referred to the satisfaction expressed by the Tunisian head of state as to the strength of the friendship ties linking the two countries and the part devoted to culture to confer to the Algero-Tunisian cooperation the human dimensions it requires the evolution of the bilateral cooperation and means to more reinforce it were also dealt with. [sentence as received]

Bourguiba 14 Jan Address to Diplomatic Corps

PM230845 Tunis L'ACTION in French 15 Jan 85 pp 2-3

[Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba 14 January speech to diplomatic corps in Tunis, read by Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi]

[Excerpts] Your Excellencies. In accordance with a well-established custom I am particularly pleased to receive you at the start of this new year and to greet you, the representatives of fraternal and friendly countries with which Tunisia maintains relations of close friendship and fruitful cooperation.

Our relations with our Maghreb brothers have undergone a substantial evolution, characterized by a new approach designed to establish an atmosphere of understanding, agreement, and trust among our states. We are resolutely determined to strengthen this trend and to eliminate any obstacles likely to hinder our progress toward complementariness and solidarity, with a view to enabling the countries of our region to accede to their historical mission and to be protected against the risks of discord and vulnerability.

The building of the Arab Maghreb, which was a dream for us at the beginning of this century and subsequently a profound aspiration of our peoples, has now become — owing to the interdependence of our interests — an imperative of the present, with all its challenges, which points to a future that promises to be anything but easy for those who are isolated or deprived.

I am sure that our Maghreb brothers share these ideas and that we will strive over the coming year to join efforts and to continue working for the good of all.

With regard to the present tension in the world, it must be observed that, despite all the efforts made, no significant progress has been achieved over the past year.

I would like to begin by discussing the Palestinian problem. Everything seems to suggest that the community of nations has resigned itself to this problem and lost sight of its crucial impor-

tance. Thus Israel continues to violate international law and unscrupulously to pursue its colonial and expansionist schemes and its policy of faits accomplis. It persists in its rejection of all peace initiatives aimed at a just, comprehensive, and lasting solution based on its withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and its recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights to return to their own independent state under the leadership of their legitimate representative, the PLO.

No less than 20 years ago I called for a return to legality for the solution of the Palestinian problem, and I remain convinced even now that only a settlement formulated within this framework can restore peace and stability to the region.

Tunisia took part in the formulation of the Arab peace plan accepted by the Palestinians and by nearly all Arab leaders during the Fes summit. It reasserts its support for all steps based on the principles enshrined in this plan and aimed at a just and lasting settlement to the conflict on the basis of international law and the Palestinian people's legitimate aspirations, recognized, moreover, by international law and illustrated by the Palestinian people's own struggle.

This problem has lasted too long. We believe it is high time to find a solution if we want to safeguard peace and stability in the region. We consider this an opportune moment to act in this direction.

I am convinced that human intelligence is capable of finding ways of achieving a lasting solution and thus putting an end to this tragedy, as long as there is a real desire to end it and to acknowledge the failure of past experiences.

Moreover, not content with invading Lebanon, a country dear to us, Israel cynically continues to begrudge it its freedom, independence, and sovereignty. Tunisia, while reasserting its solidarity with this fraternal country, is keen to express its support for the lawful government's efforts to establish a national dialogue, to ensure peace and security throughout the territory, and to preserve Lebanon's sovereignty, unity, and Arab identity.

Still, in the Middle East we are appalled by the continuation of the armed conflict between two Muslim countries — Iran and Iraq — which threatens to spread to a part of the Arab world particularly dear to us. We note with regret that no attempt has succeeded in ending a conflict which has caused considerable human and material losses and has wasted resources that could have been beneficially exploited for the sake of freedom and development.

We have noted with satisfaction Iraq's readiness to respond favorably to the various peace initiatives. But we note with regret our Iranian brothers' rejection of the appeals for an end to this senseless conflict. I exhort them to let the spirit of Islamic fraternity prevail and to facilitate every opportunity for meeting and dialogue in order to end this tragedy, which in no way benefits the fraternal people of Iran.

Your Excellencies. At the start of this new year, when hearts are filled with hope, how can we forget our brothers in southern Africa, where the racist Pretoria regime pursues with impunity its pernicious policy of apartheid against the peoples of Namibia and South Africa, in defiance of UN resolutions and the international community as a whole. How can we omit to mention also the suffering of the Mislim and nonaligned people of Afghanistan, who have endured for 5 years the horrors of an unjust war imposed on them solely by virtue of their attachment to freedom and sovereignty?

Nevertheless, I hope to see those two peoples surmount this tragic situation soon and succeed in determining their own future within freedom and dignity.

SOMALIA

Embassy Statement Condemns Falasha Evacuation

NC201503 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1448 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jan (MENA) — Somalia strongly condemned the evacuation of Ethiopian Jews, the Falashas, to Israel.

A statement issued today by the Somali Embassy in Cairo said this operation has been carried out through the Ethiopian and Israeli authorities' cooperation and coordination in return for giving Ethiopia some funds, weapons, and other material assistance.

The statement described the operation as very serious since it strengthens the Zionist expansionist plans and tightens Israel's grip on the occupied Arab territories. In addition, it described the operation as being an ugly one because it bartered human beings for a large amount of arms.

The statement pointed out that the consequences of this operation will add a new dimension to the disturbances and instability in the Horn of Africa region.

Mogadishu Reports TPLF Battle Claims

EA231616 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] TPLF [Tigre People's Liberation Front] scored decisive victories in the struggle they are waging in Gonder, Abyssinia. Victories have been won politically, economically, and militarily.

On 14 January, the heroic fighters of the TPLF launched an ambush on two groups from the 119 Battalion of the Mengistu regime's forces at Debat and Debark in Gonder region where the major highway between Addis Ababa and Tigrai crosses.

Similarly, on 15 January, TPLF fighters repulsed an offensive launched by three groups from the 119 Battalion of the Addis regime at a place 14 km from Derbak. The ambush against the Abyssinian forces by the TPLF heroic fighters resulted in 200 soldiers being killed or wounded and 20 others being taken prisoner. The front also captured 42 light guns known as "RPT-7". They also destroyed one military vehicle and one antiaircraft gun.

TANZANIA

Prime Minister Meets With GDR Official 23 Jan

EA232212 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1900 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Dodoma: Tanzania and the GDR have agreed to hold regular consultations to boost mutual cooperation. The agreement was reached today during talks between Prime Minister Ndugu Salim Ahmed Salim, and GDR Council of Ministers Deputy Chairman Ndugu Manfred Flegel, held at the prime ministers office, Dodoma. In their talks, which lasted half an hour, Prime Minister Ndugu Salim hailed the GDR for its assistance to Tanzania, and added it is a matter of delight to see both countries continuing to expand their cooperation. Other matters discussed at the meeting included development of the African Continent, Tanzania's efforts to improve its economy, and global matters in general.

Third Witness Gives Evidence in Treason Trial

EA232146 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The High Court was told today that intrigues that would have been used in the attempt to topple the Tanzanian Government included prevention of the transfer of the tank unit from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma, involvement of ex-soldiers in the attempt, and use of military aircraft to frighten residents of Dar es Salaam city during the attempt itself.

Giving his testimony before Chief Judge Ndugu Nassor Mnzavas, the third witness lieutenant Augustine (Ndegembi), said that on 31 December 1982 he was told by the sixth accused, Lt Badru Kajaja, that he, Kajaja, in collaboration with the second accused, Christopher Kadego, and Lieutenants (Kichunguli), (Mkude) and (Chilala), planned to make the attempt by using these intrigues. He said, however, the attempt was postponed because President Nyerere did not return from Kagera to Dar es Salaam on Christmas Day that year.

Lt (Ndegembi) told the court that Lt Kajaja also told him that the unit that would have been led by Lt (Kichunguli) would have invaded the president's residence at Msasani in Dar es Salaam immediately after his return.

Continuing his testimony, Lt (Ndegembi) said that on 7 January 1983 he informed his father, Ndugu Pancras (Ndegembi), who is the fourth witness, of the plan which was to have been implemented on 3 January of that year, but it was postponed again. The witness denied allegations by the defense, led by Ndugu (Murtaza Lakha), that he was aware of the plan and that after finding out that other accused had begun to be arrested, he decided to inform his father a week after he was briefed on the plan by Kajaja. He said he delayed giving information because he feared his life would have been in danger if he informed high-ranking army officers if the plan had succeeded.

Zanzibar To Set Up New Judicial System

EA231314 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 0700 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Zanzibar: The Zanzibar Council of representatives has passed three bills introducing laws to adopt a government emblem, to establish a new judicial system, and to establish a Kadis [Islamic arbiters] court.

The bill introducing the adoption of a government emblem will enable the Zanzibar Revolutionary Government to have its own insignia which will identify it and the wealth of the country. The other bill abolishes the old system of courts which was introduced in 1964, and replaces it with the 1984 system which paves the

way for the introduction of primary courts [mahakama za mwanzo], district, regional, and high courts and courts of appeal.

The bill regarding the setting up of a Kadis court, which was also passed yesterday, is to introduce courts which will deal with matters concerning Islamic law, in view of the fact that the majority of Zanzibaris are Muslims.

UGANDA

Army Reportedly To Set Up Court Martial

EA231309 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 23 Jan 85 P 5

["Courts Martial Planned in Uganda" — *DAILY NATION* headline]

[Text] The Uganda Army is to establish a court martial for the first time since Idi Amin was ousted in 1979, according to the latest issue of *MKOMBOZI*, the monthly army magazine published by the Ministry of Defence.

Quoting legal sources in the army, the magazine's December issue said proposals for the composition of the court had been forwarded to the top command for approval. The formation of the court has been exhaustively discussed and some rehearsals done. An uncomplicated case will open it to enable the public, soldiers, and the press to grasp the idea of a court martial, *MKOMBOZI* said.

PRC Ambassador Presents Equipment to Police

EA232208 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The PRC has donated five (?cases) of police communication equipment to the Uganda police. The equipment was presented to the minister of internal affairs, Dr John Luwuliza Kirunda, by the Chinese outgoing ambassador, Mr Li Shi, at the senior police officers mess in Kampala. Dr Luwuliza Kirunda expressed deep appreciation for the donation saying that the vice president's and his own visit to China last year will go a long way towards strengthening ties between the two countries. The minister hoped that more assistance to Uganda from the PRC would be extended.

In his reply, Ambassador Li Shi said that 1984 saw encouraging progress in developing relations between China and Uganda, especially when Vice President Paulo Muwanga and the minister, Dr Luwuliza Kirunda, paid successful visits to China. The chinese ambassador also noted that relations between China's Communist Party and the ruling Uganda Peoples Party on the one hand, and between China's Ministry of Public Security and the Ministry of Internal Affairs on the other, have grown tremendously. The envoy hailed Uganda's support to China which enabled her to join the international criminal police organization. He said this (?year) mutual understanding between the two peoples would be further strengthened and cooperation in politics, economic and cultural fields enhanced. The envoy called for an increase in the number of exchange of government delegations, good will missions and individual visits.

Five ECOWAS Member-States Make 1984 Contributions

AB221155 Dakar PANA in English 1125 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, 22 Jan (NAN/PANA) — The Secretariat of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) said yesterday in Lagos that only five countries in the 16-member organization have so far paid their 1984 contributions either in full or in part. In a statement, the Secretariat said that the countries were Nigeria, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Niger Republic, and Togo.

Sources at the secretariat, however, told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) that only Nigeria, Ivory Coast, and Niger Republic paid fully for 1984. Members of ECOWAS who are yet to pay up include Sierra Leone, Ghana, Republic of Benin, Cape Verde, and Liberia. Others are Mauritania, Gambia, Burkina Faso, Mali and Senegal.

The statement said that recent publications concerning contributions to the operational budget of ECOWAS were not "complete and consequently give a distorted view of the actual situation".

BENIN

Bulgarian Envoy Briefs Kerekou on Visitors

AB230815 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Our great comrade in arms, President Mathieu Kerekou, this morning received in audience His Excellency (Kruyev Koyiev), charge d'affaires of the Embassy of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The Bulgarian diplomat was accompanied to the president's office by Frederic Affo, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. Speaking to newsmen, (Kruyev Koyiev) said he went to inform the head of state of the coming visit of a Bulgarian delegation to the People's Republic of Benin.

[Begin recording] [Koyiev] I went to inform President Kerekou of the visit of a Bulgarian delegation headed by the chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers. We discussed issues concerning this visit.

[Unidentified reporter] When will the visit take place?

[Koyiev] It is scheduled to begin on 30 January 1985.

[Reporter] How is cooperation between Benin and Bulgaria?

[Koyiev] As of now, cooperation between the two countries is good. [end recording]

BURKINA

Justice Minister on Arrest of Exunion Leader

AB231125 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpts] During the seventh session of the Bobo Dioulasso Revolutionary People's Tribunal [TPR] in Ouagadougou, Soumane Toure stated that billions were being embezzled under the National Council of the Revolution [CNR]. As you will recall, this statement prompted a complaint from the CNR. The TPR handed over Soumane Toure to the competent authority for further investigations. Yesterday, the press interviewed Captain Blaise Compaore, minister of justice, for further clarifications. Listen to the interview:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Comrade Minister, following some statements made at the seventh session of the TPR in Ouagadougou, the CNR lodged a complaint against Toure Soumane. This was not an ordinary move. What prompted it?

[Compaore] First of all, we will say that this was an ordinary complaint under the (laws) in Burkina Faso. When the rights of a legal or natural person are prejudiced, the laws provide for action to be taken to restore the rights. It must be stressed that this affair has nothing to do with the cases examined by the seventh session of the TPR.

[Reporter] The TPR had decided to hand Toure Soumane over to the competent authorities for further investigations. What does the term competent authorities mean?

[Compaore] As a matter of fact, much was said about the term, especially by reactionaries and dishonest intellectuals. But it must be clearly stated that competent authorities in this case refers particularly to the Prosecution Department or to the Criminal Investigation Department.

[Reporter] Right now, what is the status of Toure Soumane? Is he free or has he been been arrested?

[Compaore] Since this case was not an ordinary one, if I may say so, and following Toure Soumane's action, there was an undertone of threat against the state security. In view of this, you will understand that Toure Soumane has been arrested and is detained in a secure place so that investigations into the case can be completed. [end recording]

CAPE VERDE

AFP: French Opposition Figure Arrives for Visit

AB232016 Paris AFP in French 1858 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Praia, 23 Jan (AFP) — Mrs Simone Veil, chairman of the liberal group at the European Parliament, arrived in Cape Verde on Wednesday for a 3-day visit at the invitation of Cape Verdian head of state Aristides Pereira.

Mrs Veil, one of the leading figures of the opposition in France, is expected to be received on Thursday by the Cape Verdian head of state and the president of the National Assembly, Abilio Duarte, who will host a dinner party in her honor.

During her stay, she will also be received by the prime minister, Major Pedro Pires, and will inspect economic and social projects before leaving Praia on Saturday.

GHANA

Rawlings Under 'Strong Attack' From Leftists

AB231156 Paris AFP in English 1102 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Accra, Han 23 (AFP) — Ghanaian leader Jerry Rawlings has come under strong attack from former leftist supporters in a statement issued here criticising the government's recent political and economic policies.

The statement, read here yesterday by Fui Tsikata, a law lecturer and aide to Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, was especially critical of the increasing role of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) in determining national economic policy. It was signed by Mr Tsikata, Father Joop Visser, a radical Catholic priest and well-knwon supporter of Flt Lt Rawlings, the pro-Rawlings New Democratic Movement, and the hitherto unkown Catholic Graduates for Action group.

In the strongest public reaction to date to Flt Lt Rawlings' economic recovery program, the statement said government had abandoned the ideals of the revolution by following the directives of the IMF and World Bank. Last month the World Bank consultative group on Ghana agreed to provide the country with loans of 415 million dollars.

The credit was extended after the government instituted IMF-backed economic stabilization measures, including three unpopular devaluations of the national currency, the cedi, and price increases on consumer goods. Today's statement said the measures had brought economic hardship to the country's people and that the costs of financing foreign loans would aggravate the situation.

The group accused the government of pursuing what it called IMF-imposed economic reforms with little sensitivity to the suffering of the people. It added that a 100 percent wage increase announced after a 30 percent devaluation of the cedi in December, would be cancelled out by higher taxes and prices.

The statement said the government program of attracting foreign investment and loans in hopes of provoking sustained development had already failed elsewhere in the Third World, and argued that such foreign capital could not provide a basis for independent development.

Without specifically naming Flt Lt Rawlings, who came to power thanks to widespread support from the left, the group also [words indistinct] month dissolving the country's National Defense Council (NDC). The NDC was set up after Flt Lt Rawlings took power in December 1981 to coordinate activities by local Workers' and People's Defense Committees.

Flt Lt Rawlings said the NDC had begun regarding itself as an "alternative" source of power in the country. But Mr Tsikata defended the body as necessary for furthering the aims of the revolution and called its demise a sign of the "consolidation of the powers of reaction."

PNDC Members Receive Egyptian, FRG Ambassadors

AB232155 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The Egyptian ambassador to Ghana, (?Mahmud al Qunii), today called on Mr Justice D.F. Annan, a member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] at the State House in Accra. Mr Justice Annan emphasized the need for African governments to share political ideas and views in their united efforts to seek the welfare of their peoples. He noted that politically Ghana and Egypt are following a similar course. There is therefore the need for increased cooperation between the two countries. Mr (?al-Quni) expressed the willingness of Egypt to increase her technical aid to Ghana. He announced that in the field of cotton development, a 15-member Egyptian technical team is in Ghana to help promote that industry.

The West German ambassador, Dr Wolf-Dietrich Vogel, also called on another member of the PNDC, Mrs Suzanna Al-Hassan, at the State House. The envoy announced that the Germany-sponsored Volta Lake transport project, which was suspended because of the low level of the lake, is being revived to make the system usable at different levels. The project links Akosombo to (Odute) in the Northern Region by means of the Volta Lake.

Mr Vogel, who also called on Mr Justice Annan, said the West German aid to Ghana this year includes waste disposal and bridge-building projects. The bridge-building project will involve the construction of six prefabricated bridges which can take almost every vehicle now in use in the country. The envoy said Germany will continue to support Ghana both on bilateral and multilateral bases.

Justice Annan thanked the West German Government for its assistance. He said there is the need for a freeflow of information between the two countries as a basis for improved cooperation. Mr Justice Annan also said Ghana now needs what he described as productive aid to boost the productive sectors of the economy. He said the government is working to remove the bottlenecks that come in the way of aid disbursement.

IVORY COAST

Houphouet-Boigny Receives Cameroon's Biya

AB232158 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1950 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Cameroonian President Paul Biya was given a warm welcome by the people of Yamoussoukro, whose streets were adorned with Ivorian and Cameroonian flags. Just after arrival, President Paul Biya was invited to a luncheon hosted by President Houphouet-Boigny, his Ivorian counterpart with whom he had long discussions this afternoon.

President Biya will tomorrow visit development projects in Yamoussoukro and, in the evening, he will attend a dinner which will be held at the City Hall. He will make a trip to Abidjan on Friday. Later in the afternoon, he will hold talks with President Houphouet-Boigny. Our guest's visit will end on Saturday morning.

AFP Reports Work Stoppages in Public Establishments

AB232107 Paris AFP in French 1837 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Abidjan, 23 Jan (AFP) — Cases of work stoppages in the past few days have affected several Ivorian national public establishments (EPN) whose workers are objecting to the alignment of their salaries with those of civil servants, it was learned from reliable sources in Abidjan.

On Tuesday evening, in a statement broadcast on television, Ivorian Minister of Civil of Service Jean-Jacques Bechio himself spoke about the dissatisfaction, but pointed out that things will soon return to normal. Mr Bechio spoke in a firm tone, stating that he was prepared to accept the resignation of anyone who believes he is being inadequately paid, adding that such a person will be replaced immediately by university graduates who are now unemployed.

The alignment of the salaries of EPN personnel with those of the civil servants was scheduled to begin on 1 January 1984, but the decision was postponed to the beginning of this year. The alignment has led to pay cuts which, significantly, in some cases are as much as two-thirds of the present salary.

Mr Bechio also said that he was opposed to the request by some representatives of EPN's to be integrated straight into the civil service to enjoy some of the benefits of the civil service, notably job security.

It will be recalled that last year Jean-Jacques Bechio (?spoke about) the resentment of the cadres affected by this salary alignment exercise, and stated his determination to follow it through to the end. This exercise, he stated, was simply "a restoration of justice and an end to what is in reality thievery."

The EPN's employ about 16,000 persons, while the civil service employs 80,000.

Japan Donates Medical Equipment to Hospital

AB231215 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 0745 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpt] One hundred million CFA francs' worth of medical equipment — this is an indication of the excellent relations between our country and Japan. Medical equipment for the use of the Treichville University Teaching Hospital was officially presented to Public Health Minister Alphonse Djedje Mady yesterday morning. This equipment is a significant gift that will help augment the hospital infrastructure, which is necessary for the administration of advanced and quality medical treatment.

LIBERIA

Hearing To Begin on Objection Filed Against UP

AB231030 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The probate court in Monrovia is expected to begin hearing into the case of the two objections filed against the approbation of the documents of the proposed Unity Party [UP] as soon as the party can file its resistance. According to the *NEW LIBERIAN* newspaper, Probate Court Judge Vernon Arch Thompson told the paper in an interview early this week that following the formal filing of both objections last Thursday, copies of the caveat were furnished to the UP. Judge Arch Thompson said this would enable the party to file its resistance within 10 days as the law requires.

A caveat is a formal notification to a court not to take a certain step till the notifier is heard. A writ of summons issued on the party last week had ordered it to appear before the probate court on 28 January to answer to objections raised against its probation. The party was also directed to file its resistance before 28 January.

According to the writ, if UP fails to comply with the orders, judgement by default will be rendered by the court against the party.

Justice Minister Replies to LUSA Statement on Arrest

AB231055 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The minister of justice, Jenkins Scott, has [word indistinct] replied to the position statement presented to him by Lofa University Students Association [LUSA] concerning the arrest and detention of (Alari Togbat), a member of the association. Yesterday's edition of the *FOOTPRINTS* newspaper quotes a letter Minister Scott addressed to the association on 16 January as saying he, Minister Scott, was pleased to advise the association that he has communicated with the appropriate agencies of his ministry on the subject matter. The letter further quoted the justice minister as informing LUSA that they will be further advised as soon as he gets a feedback from the appropriate agencies of the his ministry.

On 16 January, following the arrest and detention of some university students in connection with the circulation of anonymous leaflets on the university campus, LUSA expressed deep concern about the arrest and detention.

MALI

OAU's Peter ONU Concludes 3-Day Visit

AB231705 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The interim OAU secretary general will depart for Abidjan in a few minutes, after a 3-day visit to Mali. Peter Onu had chosen Bamako as the first leg of a tour of five Sahel countries. The tour is aimed at sensitizing member states to take part in the emergency fund set up at the 20th OAU summit as well as to prepare the OAU economic summit scheduled to take place this year. During his visit to Mali, Peter Onu was received by the head of state, General Moussa Traore. He held talks with the ministers of foreign affairs and interior. Mr Onu also visited the capital of the seventh region which is one of the areas most affected by the drought.

Makes Call For Aid

AB232258 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The interim OAU secretary general arrived in Abidjan this afternoon from Bamako. During the 3-day working visit he made to Mali, Peter Onu visited Gao, the capital of the Seventh Region, held talks with the head of state, and had working sessions with the foreign and internal affairs ministers. At the end of his visit, Mr Onu appealed to the international community for assistance to Mali which is affected by drought.

[Begin Onu recording in English with sentence-by-sentence translation] I am convinced that drought and famine can be fought and conquered here in Mali, because the Malian people are resolved to win the fight. In my opinion what the Malian people need is international assistance. However, they are making laudable efforts themselves. They are not giving up; on the contrary, they are fighting hard to stop desert encroachment. The African and the international community should assist them in their efforts. Our duty, therefore, will be to sensitize the African and international community for maximum aid to Mali. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Embassy To Screen Nationals in Ghana

AB231155 Lagos International Service in English 1600 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The Nigerian Government has appointed an officer to screen all Nigerian residents in Ghana. The Nigerian high commissioner in Accra, Major General Harrison Eyarna, who announced this, said those found to be illegal residents would be sent back. Major General Eyarna said the move was in line with the Federal Military Government's determination to strengthen

SENEGAL

Egypt's Ghali Ends Visit; Statement Issued

NC231455 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Dakar, 23 Jan (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, concluded his official visit to Senegal today. He had arrived on a tour of several African countries.

Ghali's talks with key Senegalese officials. Their discussions dealt with the latest developments in African and international affairs, particularly the question of Namibia, Western Sahara, Chad, the Middle East, and the Gulf war. Bilateral relations were also discussed.

The statement notes that Senegalese President Abdou Diouf met Dr Ghali and that the latter handed Diouf a message from President Mubarak. Dr Ghali renewed Mubarak's invitation to the Senegalese president to visit Egypt in early March. The joint statement also notes that Dr Ghali held a long meeting with Ibrahima Fall, Senegalese minister of foreign affairs, and that he invited Fall to visit Egypt. The date of the visit will be fixed later through diplomatic channels.

Dr Ghali left Cairo on 10 January for a tour that took him to France, the Ivory Coast, Mali, and Senegal.

Dakar To Host Afro-Arab Cooperation Conference

AB211735 Paris AFP in English 1430 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Dakar, Jan 21 (AFP) — Senegalese authorities and the League of Arab States will hold a conference on Arab-African cooperation here beginning Saturday, it was announced.

The two-day conference is being organized by Senegal's Afro-Arab Friendship Association under the sponsorship of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf and the secretary general of the Arab League, Chedli Klibi, who is due to arrive here Friday. The conference is to be chaired by Senegal's foreign minister, Ibrahima Fall.

Senegalese, African and Arab intellectuals will take part in the festivities during which several papers on Arab-African cooperation will be presented. Last month a meeting on Arab-African cooperation was jointly organized here by the Paris-based Franco-Arab Chamber of Commerce and the Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce.

TOGO

Eyadema Receives Houphouet Envoy, Message

AB231105 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Continuing his series of audiences with foreign dignitaries, the head of state received at his private residence in Lome II, Mathieu Ekra, an Ivorian minister of state specially sent by President Houphouet-Boigny to his brother and friend, General Gnassingbe Eyadema.

After a long audience with the man on 13 January — discussions at which Atsu-Koffi Amega, member of the Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, was present — Ivorian Minister of State Mat-hieu Ekra told the press that he was sent to the Togolese head of state within the framework of the close relations existing between Togo and the Republic of Ivory Coast. Minister of State Ekra further stated that during the discussions, he sought President Eyadema's advice on the ways and means of finding beneficial solutions to African problems. Let us listen to President Felix Houphouet-Boigny's envoy.

[Begin Ekra recording] I brought President Houphouet-Boigny's message, which falls within the framework of the normal bonds of close friendship and cooperation between the Ivory Coast and Togo. The topics discussed were political and concerned conditions prevailing in our countries — the state of our enterprises

compared to the rest of the world's — and the future of Africa in light of the present conditions.

President Houphouet-Boigny informed President Gnassingbe Eyadema of his concern regarding some problems, and sought his advice on these problems to find solutions beneficial to Africa, especially to Togo and the Ivory Coast. Our two countries maintain normal relations of friendship and cooperation;message-bearing visits like the one I am on now are working visits. [as heard][end recording]

BURUNDI

Information Minister Leaves for Kinshasa Meeting

EA241143 Bujumbura Domestic Service in French 0420 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Burundi Minister of Information Mr Benoit Muyebe left Bujumbura for Kinshasa yesterday to attend the round table meeting of information ministers of the CEPGL [Economic Community of the Countries of the Great Lakes] member countries.

The round table is being jointly organized by the CEPGL Executive Secretariat and UNESCO. The ministers will study the possibility of creating an institute or a center for mass media personnel training.

CHAD

Ndjamena Radio Comments on Al-Qadhdhafi Remarks

AB232037 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt] Once again the Tripoli colonel has just given to the international community an insight into his character, a character full of contradictions, changes, and boasting; in fact, full of cynicism.

The leader of international terrorism has just flatly and publicly told the paper *KOL EL ARAB* that his troops have never left Chad, on the contrary, they are being reinforced. The Libyans are in the same trench with members of Goukouni's government [words indistinct], that is to say the so-called government comprising all those poor mercenaries recruited with petrodollars by the megalomaniac of Tripoli. Anyway, this statement shows that Libya [words indistinct] like proofs accumulated, has never had an intention to leave Chad. Libya has never left Chad; rather, it has maintained its troops there and has reinforced them. This is what Al-Qadhdhafi means. In the same statement, the Tripoli colonel has not only said that his troops have never left Chad but he has voiced his readiness to support any peaceful settlement which would bring all the fighting sides around a table. However, when one considers that Libya is today the real obstacle to any effort toward a solution of the Chadian tragedy — the author of which is Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi — it is easy to see the cynical nature of his statement.

As a matter of fact, who prevented Chadians from coming together in January 1984 in Addis Ababa to examine their common problems? It was Al-Qadhdhafi. Who did everything recently in Brazzaville to prevent Chadians from examining the future of their country in order to find common solutions? It was the same Al-Qadhdhafi who, on this occasion, sent a consignment [as heard] of men in his pay to act as troublemakers and prevent things from moving on well. Even though the Brazzaville conference cannot properly be termed a failure because Chadians could talk to each other, the sudden arrival of a large Libyan delegation contributed to what should be described as a stalemate in the attempts to find a solution of the Chadian tragedy.

But Al-Qadhdhafi is not content with this. In his statement to *KOL EL ARAB*, the Tripoli terrorist squarely went so far as to say, quote: We will not allow anyone to fight us from Chad, or to make that country a base against us, unquote. We must say that Al-Qadhdhafi has no right to allow or forbid anything concerning Chad. We can observe that through this statement, the Tripoli colonel once against plays the apprentice sorcerer. It is Libya that is now occupying half of Chad's territory. Al-Qadhdhafi is responsible for the lack of security in Chad, as well as for executions, tortures and the difficult conditions of life for Chadians in the occupied territories. How can the same Al-Qadhdhafi pretend that Chad may pose a threat to Libya? In what way?

Bardai Radio on France, Secret Chad-U.S. Pact

AB232234 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] What intrigues observers of the Chadian situation is the attitude of the French Socialist government in the face of (?American intervention) in Chad. Two hypotheses have been advanced: The first is that the French Socialist government, which has just concluded a troop disengagement agreement in Chad with Libya, might have agreed with the United States of America to turn over to the Americans former Chadian soldiers [anciens militaires Tchadiens]. In this way, Mitterrand's France will close its eyes to the disguised military operations of their ally from the other side of the Atlantic.

The second hypothesis is that Hissein Habre, not happy with the new French policy in Chad, would like to take revenge by concluding a secret military pact with the Americans. This second hypothesis appears to be true. This opinion has been reached on the basis of the recent race against the clock between Washington and Paris over the Chadian situation. [Words indistinct] Roland Dumas, the new French external relations minister, has just restated French policy in Chad. In fact, he stated in Abidjan that his country and the Ivory Coast [words indistinct] over the Chadian issue. The head of French diplomacy said it was up to Chadians and Africans to find a political solution to the Chadian crisis. It should be noted that Houphouet-Boigny ended up being convinced of the justness of French policy in Chad.

We can therefore ask this question: Is there still a single country on the continent which supports the refusal of the puppet Ndjamena group to make peace in Chad? Unless some African countries [words indistinct] between Washington and Paris. In any case, France's new position on the Chadian issue, as explained by the head of French diplomacy, was not to the liking of Ndjamena. According to our permanent correspondent, the proof of this is that the (?French minister's) statement was not quoted by the press organs of the antinational clique.

Bardai Radio Alleges U.S. Military Intervention

AB240904 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Has the United States decided to replace France militarily in Chad? This question asked in one of our previous casts has just been answered. As a matter of fact, according to our permanent correspondent in Ndjamena, U.S. (?Phantom) aircraft have just inaugurated an airlift from an African country to back up their disguised military intervention in Chad.

In the meantime, the U.S. diplomatic mission in Ndjamena has (?earmarked) 150 million CFA francs as financial support for its agents in Chad. Actually this figure is (?not real) because the Reagan administration has downplayed [passage indistinct].

RWANDA

Talks With Zaire, Burundi on Rising Crime Rate

AB231235 Paris AFP in English 0750 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Kigali, Jan 23 (AFP) — Legal officials of the three-nation Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (Zaire, Burundi and Rwanda) are meeting at the Rwandan border town of Gisenyi to discuss how to fight a rising crime rate in their countries.

"Crime is increasing and its methods and organization are getting more sophisticated," the community's deputy executive secretary, Kassassa Kinyati Mutati of Zaire, told the meeting, which is due to end today.

ZAIRE

Mobutu To Postpone Scheduled Cairo Visit

AB231620 Paris AFP in English 1611 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, Jan 23 (AFP) — A visit by Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko to Egypt, scheduled to have taken place from January 26 to 29, has been postponed, diplomatic sources said here today.

Cancellation of the trip, which may now take place within three weeks or a month after discussion between the two governments, was apparently at the request of Marshal Mobutu, who said he had pressing internal matters to attend to.

IMF Grants $200 Million 1-year Credit

AB232255 Paris AFP in English 1635 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Kinshasa, Jan 23 (AFP) — Zaire is to receive a one-year credit worth nearly 200 million dollars from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as of next March, the IMF's representative to Zaire Regis Blin announced here today.

Mr Blin also ruled out any new devaluation of the Zaire, the country's currency, which was last devalued in September 1983. He was quoted by the official ZAIRE NEWS AGENCY (AZAP) as saying that the credit of 200 million special drawing rights (SDR's) was aimed at improving Zaire's balance of payments situation and bringing down its rate of inflation from 18 percent annually to about five or six percent.

ANGOLA

Commander Says Air Force Defends From UNITA, RSA

MB211352 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Colonel Iko Teles Carreira, commander of the People's Air Force of Angola, recently said in Luanda that the Air Force combatants are actively fighting UNITA's criminal gangs.

In an interview given to Angolan television, Col Iko Carreira also said that on a number of occasions the Air Force had even defended the inviolability of the People's Republic of Angola's airspace when threatened by attacks from the South African Air Force.

UNITA Says 109 Angolans, 27 Cubans Killed

NC231721 Paris AFP in English 1714 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Paris, Jan 23 (AFP) — Guerrillas of the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) killed 109 government and 27 Cuban troops Monday in an attack on a garrison town in the east of the country, UNITA said in a statement released here today.

The attack occurred at Luena, a town in Moxico Province, the statement said, adding that three tanks were among military equipment destroyed.

The statement also said that UNITA destroyed 10 electricity pylons supplying the Angolan capital of Luanda in an attack near Caxito, northeast of Luanda, on January 18.

BOTSWANA

Accusations Against USSR Embassy Dismissed

MB231913 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1610 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The office of the president has dismissed as false allegations which appeared in yesterday's issue of the South African newspaper, *THE STAR*, that the Soviet Embassy in Gaborone has a complement of 250 diplomats.

Dismissing the allegation, the administrative secretary in the office of the president, Mr (Nemwe Mpotokwan), said the number of diplomats attached to the Soviet Embassy in Gaborone was only seven. Mr (Mpotokwan) stated that obviously the report, which claimed to be quoting a French intelligence report, could never have been speaking about Botswana.

This is because the report gave the name of the Soviet ambassador as (Vladimir Cherennik), when in actual fact there was no such name in the Gaborone-based Embassy of the USSR.

Mr Mikhail Petrov is the Soviet ambassador to Botswana, and not (Vladimir Cherennik), as reported in the paper.

In a telephone interview with BOTSWANA PRESS AGENCY today, Mr Petrov said his embassy has 20 members of staff, among them 7 diplomats and 13 technical staff and a (?mail) section staff. He dismissed the allegations by the *STAR* newspaper as blatantly primitive fabrications. Mr Petrov strongly emphasized that the allegations were baseless and should not be taken seriously.

COMOROS

Presidential Cabinet Posts Reshuffed

EA182004 Moroni Domestic Service in French 1700 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Summary] President Ahmed Abdallah Abderemane today reshuffled his government. "The new Cabinet consists of four ministers of state among whom there are two newcomers, Mr (Ahmed Abdoul), a former staff director to the presidency, who becomes minister of state to the presidency in charge of presidential affairs, management and state control, and public, commercial, and industrial companies, and Mr (Ali Bazi), a former president of the Chamber of Commerce who becomes minister of state in charge of planning, territorial organization and management, environment, urban planning, housing, transport, and telecommunications."

Two ministers still retain their posts: Mr Said Kafe, the foreign minister, and Ali Nasor, the economy and finance minister. "There are also four ministers delegate among whom there are three newcomers" and six secretaries of state "who will play coordinating role." [no mention of the prime minister position]

LESOTHO

Joint RSA Liaison Committee Meets in Maseru

MB181714 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] The fifth meeting of the Lesotho-South African Intergovernmental Liaison Committee was held in Maseru today. The Lesotho delegation consisted of representatives of various governmental departments and was led by the principal secretary for foreign affairs, Mr W.T. van Tonder.

The South African delegation was led by Mr P.R. Killen, the deputy director general of the Department of Foreign Affairs. The committee considered reports from its agricultural, health, and transport subcommittees, as well as the steering committees on the Drakensberg-Maluti Mountains catchment area.

Matters discussed included the admission of patients from Lesotho to hospitals in South Africa, the establishment of district border committees where local issues could be discussed between neighbors, the maintenance of international bridges and conditions at border posts.

The committee was established as a forum for the discussion of bilateral matters of nonpolitical nature and has over the years achieved positive results.

BCP Urges RSA Voter Registration Assistance

MB210738 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] At their first national conference in 15 years, leaders of the opposition Basotholand Congress Party [BCP] have called for the South African Government to be approached to help with the registration of Basotho workers in South Africa as voters. They have also suggested that the South African Government should be asked to help Basotho working in the country to vote in South Africa on election day.

The BCP has also called for a meeting between its exiled leader, Mr Ntsu Mokhele, and the Lesotho prime minister, Dr Leabua Jonathan, to resolve the political impasse in Lesotho. A general election is to be held in Lesotho this year, but no definite date has been fixed.

Party Leader Says ANC Members Flee to Lesotho

MB211456 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Mr (Anthony Manyelo), the president of the newly formed National Independence Party in Lesotho, alleges that many members of the banned ANC fled to Lesotho last month after tough action by the Swaziland Government made it impossible for them to stay in that country. Mr (Manyelo) was a former senior member of Dr Leabua Jonathan's Cabinet, but resigned from the Cabinet in 1972 to protest what he described as a switch in policy by Dr Jonathan.

MALAWI

South Korea Opens Embassy in Lilongwe

AB231658 Dakar PANA in English 1630 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Blantyre, 23 Jan (MANA/PANA) — South Korea has opened an embassy in Malawi with Mr Pak Nam-kyun as its first ambassador based in Malawi's capital city of Lilongwe, 300 kilometres north of Blantyre.

Receiving credentials from Ambassador Pak in Blantyre today, President Kamuzu Banda said Malawi and the Republic of Korea have in the past few years seen the rapid strengthening of friendly ties which have been further cemented by the accreditation of Ambassador Pak as the first representative of South Korea to Malawi. President Kamuzu Banda also said he was pleased to note Ambassador Pak's desire to strengthen further the bonds of relationship and cooperation between the two countries during his stay in Malawi. He assured the envoy of every cooperation from the Malawi Government in discharging his duties and appreciated the ambassador's remarks that Malawi had made economic and social progress under his leadership.

MOZAMBIQUE

Maputo Without Electricity, Train Transportation

PA230443 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0357 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Maputo, 23 Jan (EFE) — The antigovernment guerrilla groups' sabotage has again left the capital of Mozambique without electricity, for the 6th time in 3 months, and without railroad communication with South Africa.

South African radio stations reported the sabotage on the railroad, quoting sources in the country's railroad sector.

The use of the railroad has remained uncertain for several months due to the frequent activities carried out by the guerrilla groups of the Mozambique National Resistance Movement, RENAMO; however, last 14 January it was practically rendered useless, given the damages inflicted by the rebel groups.

The railroad was used to carry coal to the Sonefe thermoelectric plant, a partial alternative to supply energy for Maputo whenever the distribution line that links the capital with the South African city of Komatiport was cut.

It was learned today that the railroad line was sabotaged again yesterday, although the damage caused during the last sabotage, carried out on 14 January, has still not been repaired.

OAU Deputy Head Arrives for Visit

MB240528 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Dr (Nsavinana), the OAU deputy secretary general, arrived in Maputo this evening from Harare. A source from the Mozambican Ministry of Foreign Affairs told journalists at the Maputo International Airport that Dr (Nsavinana) is here to consult with our country's leaders regarding OAU administration issues. He should leave Maputo tomorrow morning.

Veloso Meets U.S. Official in Maputo

MB211930 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Frank Wisner, the U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs, this afternoon held a meeting with Jacinto Veloso, the minister for economic affairs in the presidency.

According to AIM, the meeting lasted longer than 1 hour. This is the first meeting between Frank Wisner and a Mozambican official since his arrival in Maputo this morning.

Wisner has requested an audience with President Samora Machel, which is expected to take place tomorrow.

5 Killed in Convoy Ambush on Nampula Road

MB221131 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] A total of five Mozambican citizens were murdered on 29 December 1984 by armed bandits in the Nametil-Mogovolas area of Nampula Province, according to *NOTICIAS* newspaper. The citizens were murdered while they were in a convoy carrying cattle to Nampula city which was ambushed by the terrorists. In this terrorist act, two other people were seriously wounded. The bandits siezed the head of cattle and burned the trucks that carried the animals. According to the military command of Nampula Province, as quoted by *NOTICIAS*, the cattle were intended for the provincial capital, for the New Year celebrations.

USSR, RSA Fishing Delegations Visit

MB221317 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Delegations from the USSR and South Africa were in Beira last week where, together with the Mozambican Fishing Enterprise [EMOPESCA], they studied possible technical assistance in the field of fishing.

The Soviet delegation, which was there for a period of 7 days, studied the existing economic viability of the fishing industry for the subsequent drafting of a concrete plan that would be valid until the year 2000. The study, based on a cooperation agreement between the USSR and our country in the field of fishing, is aimed at improving fishing research.

As for the South African delegation, it came for an on-the-spot observation of ways to recover six boats belonging to EMOPESCA which were made in South Africa. Accordingly, after the technical study, the total cost of recovering the boats will be calculated. The South African fishing delegation visited Angoche district in Nampula for the same purpose.

Bulgarians Present $3.5 Million Donation

MB220658 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Andrey Takanyakov, the Bulgarian ambassador to Mozambique, today in Maputo presented a Bulgarian Government donation including clothes and hygiene goods worth $3.5 million, AIM reports. On the occasion, the Bulgarian diplomat said the donation symbolizes the militant solidarity of the Bulgarian Communists with the Mozambican Government and a renewed demonstration of the existing friendship and cooperation between the two countries and peoples.

Andrey Takanyakov recalled that between 1976 and 1985, Bulgaria had given Mozambique aid totaling $12 million in foodstuffs, industrial goods, medicine, chemical products, and other goods. The Bulgarian diplomat added that his country also gives active technical aid to Mozambique, referring to the presence of Bulgarian specialists in the various sectors and country activities.

Manuel Jorge Aranda da Silva, the minister of home trade, received the donation on behalf of the Mozambican Government. Aranda do Silva expressed thanks for the gesture, saying it is a continuation of the situation during the armed struggle, when Bulgarian doctors operated on and treated Frelimo soldiers in the jungle.

The donation is significant, not just because of the quantity of goods, but especially as a symbol, now that imperialism is committed to hindering the improvement of our relations with the socialist countries, Minister Aranda da Silva stressed.

Aranda da Silva said this aid, which will be distributed throughout Maputo City and Maputo, Gaza, and Inhambane Provinces, will not solve all the problems of the people in these regions, but will permit an improvement in the people's standards of living.

The Bulgarian donation includes 258 tons of soap; 291,000 meters of clothing material; 36,000 pairs of shoes for men, women, and children; and 114,000 pieces of clothing for children, women, and men; among other goods. A portion of the Bulgarian donation is expected to arrive in Maputo this week.

1984 Actions Against 'Bandits' in Tete Reported

MB231156 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The Mozambique armed forces stationed in Tete Province last year killed 356 armed bandits and captured another 52. Lieutenant Colonel (Paulo Nazario), the commander of the 4th Motorized Infantry Brigade, said that during the same period 400 civilians who had been forced to live with the armed bandits were released. The armed forces destroyed ten camps of the armed bandits last year in Tete Province.

Joint Sea Transport Firm Set Up With Belgium

MB221334 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] An agreement to establish a Mozambican-Belgium joint enterprise was signed in Maputo yesterday morning, according to *DOMINGO* newspaper. The enterprise, named the Mozambique International Sea Agency, will be officially based in Beira and will, among other things, act as an agency for ships and merchandise in international transit.

Signing the agreement on the Mozambican side were Alcantara Santos, the minister of ports, railroads, and merchant marine, and Armindo de Brito, the chairman of the managing council of the enterprise, while (Francois Nolbert) signed for Belgium.

The shareholders of the future enterprise, due to begin its activities in February 1985, are the Mozambican National Shipping and Freight Agency, the Mozambican Cargo Enterprise, the Mozambican Enterprise for the Export and Import of Chemical and Plastic Products, and the Belgium International Sea Agency, which has been working in Mozambique since 1929.

According to a communique issued to the press, through its branches the enterprise expects to meet the requirements of importers and exporters from Malawi, Zaire, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, countries which have always depended on Mozambican ports.

Portugal Decides To Curb MNR Activities

MB240534 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares has decided to clamp down on activities in Portugal of the Mozambique National Resistance [MNR] terrorists' leadership. A spokesman for the prime minister said Mr Soares met in Lisbon yesterday with his ministers of foreign affairs, justice, and interior to examine actions to be taken by the government against the activities of the MNR terrorists' leadership in his country.

Mozambique has repeatedly protested over the presence in Portugal of the MNR leadership, despite that country's declarations that it does not support terrorism in Mozambique.

Since the signing of the Nkomati nonaggression pact between South Africa and Mozambique, most of the statements issued by the MNR terrorists have been made in Lisbon.

AFP: MNR Official Criticizes U.S. Aid

HK230326 Hong Kong AFP in English 0301 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Lisbon, Jan 23 (AFP) — Mozambique's anti-government rebels attacked planned U.S. military aid to Mozambique Tuesday as "incomprehensible."

Jorge Correia, European representative of the National Resistance Movement (MNR) rebels and third-ranking figure in the rebel hierarchy, told the Portuguese news agency that he did not understand how Washington could think of signing a January 14 agreement to supply one million dollars worth of communications equipment and uniforms to "a Marxist-Leninist country like Mozambique." Mr Correia reiterated that the rebels would not agree to new talks with the Mozambican Government while Maputo denied that they were even going on. But the head of the MNR, Evo Fernandes, has reportedly arrived in Pretoria for a new round of talks with South African and Mozambican officials on a ceasefire.

South Africa formally agreed last March to stop arming and financing the rebels if Mozambique would stop anti-apartheid militants from using Mozambique as a base for attacks on South Africa.

But while diplomats in Maputo agree that Mozambique has carried out its side of the bargain, rebel attacks have increased along with frequent reports that they are still getting supplies from South Africa, including air-drops routed via Malawi, the only Southern African state which has ties with Pretoria. South Africa has formally denied it is still backing the rebels.

NAMIBIA

Voice of Namibia Views S. African Military Maneuvers

Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 21 Jan 85

["Talking Point" program: unattributed commentary]

[Text] In this week's edition of "Talking Point" we take a look at South Africa's latest military maneuvers in Namibia.

Last week the troops of the illegal occupationist regime of South Africa held the largest ever military maneuvers in Namibia near the Angolan border. The purpose of the exercise, codenamed "Iron Fist" which involve some 1000 troops was, according to South Africa's military propagandists, to test the readiness of the South African troops for any future operation like the large-scale invasion of Angola just over a year ago. The purpose of the maneuvers was thus partly to intimidate the People's Republic of Angola [PRA] in particular, and all the frontline states in general. The exercise was also a means of psychological warfare agains the oppressed and fighting people of Namibia and their revolutionary vanguard movement, SWAPO.

Simultaneously with the military maneuvers, the regime's spokesman threw in their favorite propaganda weapon, that SWAPO was massing its troops on the Angolan side of the Namibian/Angolan frontier. That ploy was designed to detract the attention of the international community from Pretoria's sinister motives for holding the exercise. That hullabaloo was also designed to justify the presence of South African troops on Angolan territory which were supposed to have been withdrawn by the end of last month.

At the same time, the holding of the exercises and the massive propaganda justifying it is an attempt by the racist regime to prepare world public opinion for yet another large-scale invasion of the Peoples Republic of Angola. The maneuvers are a clear indication of racist South Africa's desperateness to gain the initiative in the Namibian war. They are a clear testimony that the regime's attempts militarily, diplomatically, and politically to defeat the Namibian people and their vanguard movement, SWAPO, have even [word indistinct]. Hence the holding of the exercises to revive the sinking morale of South African troops who are fighting a war which they increasingly realize they can never win.

Spokesmen of the racist regime are fond of saying that they do not recognize the jurisdiction of the UN over Namibia. They often claim that they are ruling Namibia according to a mandate they got from the League of Nations. However, even that mandate expressly prohibited the setting up of bases and the holding of military exercises in Namibia.

The holding of the latest exercises and all previous ones in Namibia by the occupationist troops have, therefore, no legal foundation under international law and are as illegal and provocative to the Namibian people in the international community, as is the regime's presence in Namibia.

The Namibian people, under the dynamic leadership of SWAPO, are intensifying the armed national liberation struggle inside Namibia. Neither massive military exercises nor verbal threats from Pretoria can change that reality. Only the genuine independence of Namibia as envisaged in Security Council Resolution 435 can lead to peace in our war-torn motherland.

Whatever the intentions of the occupationist authorities for the holding of the latest military maneuvers, the struggle will be intensified on all fronts until final victory. We shall never be (?intimidated). Everything and every effort for the struggle. All for the final victory.

SOUTH AFRICA

Koornhof Opens KwaNdebele's Legislature

MB231151 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The chairman of the president's council, Dr Piet Koornhof, says that with the acceptance of the principle of an elected legislative assembly in KwaNdebele, the national state now enters a new dispensation in its constitutional development. Opening the first session of the second legislative assembly at Siyabuswa, Dr Koornhof said that Ndebele living outside the territory would now also be given a say in the decision-making process. Dr Koornhof said that the South African political system offered everyone in the country sufficient opportunity to fulfill his cultural heritage politically. Emphasizing the dynamic nature of the constitutional process, he said that blacks were not excluded from the negotiating process or from the advantages of development. Concerning the special Cabinet committee on the constitutional future of blacks outside the national states, Dr Koornhof said the government was sincerely trying to find the solutions for the complex problems of South Africa.

Viljoen Says 'New Forum' Possible for Blacks

MB230940 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 23 Jan 85 p 1

[By Chris Freimond, political correspondent]

[Text] Cape Town — The government was considering establishing a new negotiating forum in which blacks would have a far greater say in political reform, the minister of cooperation and development, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, said yesterday.

In an interview with the RAND DAILY MAIL in Cape Town, Dr Viljoen said a new negotiation structure was one of the issues being considered by the Cabinet committee examining the future of urban blacks. Results of the committee's work were likely to be made known in the first half of the year, he said.

Dr Viljoen said the committee was trying to avoid working out solutions and presenting them to people because this had caused problems in the previous stage of reform in respect of the Coloreds. The committee had tried to adopt a give-and-take style of negotiation with the black leaders who had made themselves available for discussions. But there was a feeling that the negotiation structure should be changed because the committee represented only one participant in the process, Dr Viljoen said.

He added that this had been suggested to the government and he believed it was the line along which people should be thinking. The possibility of a new discussion forum did not mean the committee had failed.

"I would not say that the Cabinet committee is not achieving what it set out to achieve. I think it has made good progress and I think that some of its results should be forthcoming in the first half of this year," he said.

The government had hoped for a greater input by extra- establishment black groups and leaders, but there was apparently considerable resistance to being associated with the committee. These groups could be encouraged to participate if the government produced some results that showed a clear committment to further reform and thereby demonstrated the value of negotiation.

"My experience is that black leaders are open to the need for a peaceful solution, which means a give-and-take rather than a simple black majority single-state concept which,in any case, would not be accepted by the whites and would lead to deadlock," Dr Viljoen said.

The government's priorities for black political reform included the provision of acceptable participation in decision- making by black communities in areas affecting their lives, and joint decision-making with other groups on general affairs.

The two basic prerequisites for constitutional reform were:

— The acknowledgement of the cultural, national, ethnic diversity in the population, and therefore differentiation, according to population groups, in the political structure; and

— The maintenance of social, economic, educational and political standards and norms that had been achieved, in contrast with the rest of Africa.

Successful reform at central level was also crucial to the success of the new black local government system, he said.

The past year was one of transition for the new system and there were many problems, including lack of understanding. The perception in black communities that they were being excluded from central decision-making manifested itself in a rejection of the new black local authorities, which were seen as an alternative to a role in central government.

Central government reform was also crucial to educational issues, he said. Dr Viljoen also said the government was reviewing certain aspects of the policy on population removals, though removals would not be halted entirely.

Negotiations on removals for consolidation purposes would continue with the governments of national states. "But when it comes to forced settlement and also the resettlement of townships the policy in the past has been that they be resettled in the

national states — this is an aspect which we are having a penetrating new look at," Dr Viljoen said.

New Colored Political Party Established

MB210703 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] A new Colored political party, the Democratic Workers Party, DWP, has been established in Cape Town by the breakaway group of the People's Congress Party, PCP.

The member of parliament for Ottery, Mr Dennis de la Cruz, formerly of the PCP, has been appointed leader of the new party. Mr de la Cruz told our political staff that he would remain leader of the opposition in the House of Representatives when the other opposition leaders, Mr Yusuf Rhoda, the member of parliament for Bokkeveld, and Mr M. Essop, member of parliament for Nuweveld, crossed the floor to join the new party.

The leader of the Reformed Freedom Party, Mr Charles Julies, has also joined the new DWP, and appealed to members of his party to follow suit. Speaking at the founding of the new DWP, Mr de la Cruz said that his party would be open to all racial groups. He said that the DWP was against communism and socialism, including the nationalization of industries. Mr de la Cruz said that the DWP would strive for the immediate scrapping of discriminatory legislation.

Reagan Under Pressure From Anti-RSA Lobby

MB221802 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Station commentary: "Reagan and South Africa"]

[Text] American President Mr Ronald Reagan declared in his inaugural address on Monday that America must remain freedom's staunchest ally, setting the tone for the major themes of his second term of office.

South Africans [words indistinct] by the American leader's remarks will not admit their implications. Mr Reagan and senior staff have made it clear in recent statements that the policy of constructive engagement in southern Africa remains on course. At the same time, they have drawn attention to a shift in emphasis as far as the policy concerns South Africa. Public responses to events were being more forthright. The depths of the relationship will depend more closely on the results emerging from the reformed process.

It is clear that there is intense pressure by a disunited and defeated American opposition party on the Reagan administration over its approach to South Africa. Anti-South African protests and a disinvestment lobby in the United States are intensifying their efforts considerably and have the backing of a liberal- dominated media.

The most unfortunate thing about the protests, says *THE WALL STREET JOURNAL* in a recent editorial, is that they dupe a sympathetic but uninformed public into thinking that the simple [word indistinct] of picketing can yield a solution to South Africa's unique and complex social and political problems. The fact is that an aroused public, no matter how uninformed, makes its views felt in politics. Three anti-South African bills providing for a variety of punitive economic measures are to be introduced in the American Congress this year. It is the sort of pressure that no American Administration can simply shrug off, and it will want to be able to point to greater movement in South Africa's commitment to political reforms.

South African president, Mr P.W. Botha has said he regards the present investigation into devising an [word indistinct] constitutional dispensation for blacks living outside the 10 national states in greater South Africa as the government's highest priority. [Words indistinct] recognize that one of the biggest steps still to be taken in extending democracy and political freedom to all [word indistinct] and diverse communities. Progress on this vital issue is steadily being made in consultation with black political and business leaders. This merits the support of all who express concern for the peaceful solution of South Africa's complex problems.

SWAZILAND

Evidence on Former Minister's Detention Ordered

MB240532 Mbabane Television Service in English 1815 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The High Court today ordered the attorney general to give reasons by Friday afternoon why former minister of finance, Sishayi Nxumalo, should not be released from police custody. The order, given by acting High Court judge Mr Justice Ben Dunn, also required the attorney general to give reasons why he should not pay the costs of the application.

Dr Nxumalo's application was brought before the court with a certificate of urgency by his attorney Mrs Qinisile Hlanze. In an affidavit submitted to the court, Dr Nxumalo alleges that since his arrest on 22 November 1984, he has been interviewed by police only once, and that was the following day. According to his affidavit, two police officers from Mbabane questioned him at the Piggs Peak police station about rumors that he had been mobilizing workers to support him to get back into government. After asking them to go and check their facts, they left and have never returned. He has also cited his deteriorating health as one of the reasons why he wants to be released from police custody. Letters he wrote to the attorney general and the minister of justice on 19 and 20 December respectively complaining about his continued detention were attached to the application.

Educator Cites Commercial Basis for ANC Stance

MB230955 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 23 Jan 85 p 7

[By Patrick Laurence, political editor]

[Text] All alliance between the Swazi ruling class and South African capitalism is the key factor behind Swaziland's hostility to the African National Congress and its "open collaboration"

with Pretoria, according to Mr John Daniel, of the University of Swaziland. The alliance, in turn, rests on the Tibiyo Taka-Ngwane Fund, Swaziland's powerful investment and development corporation, Mr Daniel contends.

Established by King Sobhuza on revenue derived from mineral rights paid to the Swazi nation by foreign mining companies, Tibiyo has grown to become the "wealthiest and most energetic locally-controlled force in the domestic economy". Its equity in foreign companies operating in Swaziland, particularly in the agro-industry, has swelled its coffers and brought it into a close alliance with international capital, which in the Swazi context increasingly means South African capital.

Tibiyo is controlled by dominant elements of the Swazi aristocracy, in conjunction with a "few loyal commoner allies" and their financial well-being depends largely on the prosperity of foreign and South African capital in Swaziland. "It is this above all that explains the present hostility to the ANC and the now open collaboration with South Africa," Mr Daniel says in an article in *SOUTH AFRICAN REVIEW*.

In his view the overlapping commerical interests of the Swazi ruling class and South Africa capital are more important in forging close ties between Mbabane and Pretoria than either the "land deal" or the deeply conservative nature of Swazi society and its concommitant fear of the radical forces represented by the ANC.

In terms of the now stalled land deal, Pretoria offered to help restore the Greater Swaziland of the 19th century by transferring South Africa's border territories of Kangwane and Igwavuma to Swaziland. Land deal negotiations took place in 1981-82. At the time it was speculated that they were important in persuading Swaziland to sign a secret non-aggresion pact with South Africa and to adopt an increasingly hostile attitude toward the ANC.

But, Mr Daniel avers, Swaziland's desire to regain its "alienated territory" cannot on its own explain its tough stand against the ANC. "The 'carrot' of these 'lost' lands has been a card which South Africa has played skilfully but it has only served to reinforce deeper tendencies in the Swazi state's attitude to the ANC."

Mr Daniel contrasts Lesotho's ideologically hostile attitude to South Africa with Swaziland's generally accommodation attitude. Lesotho's more stridently critical position is paradoxical in the sense that it is more dependent economically on South Africa than Swaziland and therefore more vulnerable to South African pressure.

One reason for Lesotho's vociferous anti-apartheid stance is the quest by its government for international and internal legitimacy, a quest which has its roots in the seizure of power by Prime Minister Leabua Jonathan after the aborted 1970 general election. "Illegitimate since its coup in 1970, the Jonathan government has tried desperately to acquire legitimacy in the 1970's by assuming a more populist position, particularly on the question of South Africa and apartheid," Mr Daniel writes. Another factor, however, is the absence of a Lesotho variant of the Tibiyo Fund and hence of a coalition between the Lesotho ruling class and South Africa capital. "There has not been a tendency on the part of the Basotho state to enter into joint ventures with capital," Mr Daniel says.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Sends Congratulations to Reagan

MB211200 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] His excellency, President Kaunda, today urged the United States to play a decisive role in bringing about the independence of Namibia on the basis of the UN Security Council Resolution 435, and end apartheid in South Africa.

In a congratulatory message to President Ronald Reagan on his inauguration for a second term of office, President Kaunda said nothing could please Zambia better than to see President Reagan go down in history as one who played a noble role in liberating Namibia, and promote majority rule in South Africa.

The president also urged his counterpart to spare no effort in working for an improvement in the present international climate in the interests of peace and security for humanity as a whole. Dr Kaunda said, and I quote, as you begin your second term of office, I wish to assure you of my keen interest and consolidation of the warm bilateral relations between the United States and Zambia for mutual benefit, end of quote. [sentence as heard]

He wished President Reagan (?happiness) and good health as he entered his second and last term of office.

Kaunda Lauds Finnish Aid; Criticizes 'Linkage'

MB230759 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] His Excellency President Kaunda has emphasized that Zambia's main weakness in agricultural development has been the poor prices paid to farmers for their produce in the past. Speaking during a State House interview with Finnish journalists accompanying that country's foreign minister, Mr Paavo Vayrynen, on his official visit to Zambia, Dr Kaunda said while Zambia has had a good policy, it made this mistake which has discovered rather too late. However, he said, despite this, the country has scored remarkable success in the production of cotton, coffee, and tea, which it is now exporting.

On what his expectations were on his coming visit to England, the president said he looked forward to learning a lot from that country, which he said was advanced, especially in small-scale farming. The president praised Finland for its worthwhile assistance to Zambian development efforts, saying that it's building a society based on the importance of man. Admitting that corruption is rife in parastatals, Dr Kaunda said this is being fought wherever it shows its ugly hand. The president defended the country's socialist policies, saying that anything that exploited man was not good for him. He said despite the hurdles on the way, the country was succeeding in its movement from capitalism to humanism to socialism.

At the same function, Dr Kaunda described the United Nations as a vital body for the human race, which can only be as strong as the member states wish it to be. He said in spite of its weakness in failing to solve international problems, the United Nations remained a vital body for the human race, and a useful instrument for bringing about a world government. The president also expressed in his worry about the latest developments in the international scene with the United States and other big powers withdrawing from UNESCO, after recognizing a mistake, instead of helping rectify it. And Dr Kaunda conceded that at present the vast powers of the United Nations are not being exercised democratically, due to the veto advantage of some nations, but he pointed out that the veto issue should not be rushed as it would be dangerous.

On the U.S. insistence on the linkage of the Namibian independence with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola, Dr Kaunda said the linkage was immoral and that it was a pity for America to use it in the way it has done. However, he said Zambia welcomed the recent moves in America and American President Ronald Reagan's attack on apartheid, because only Washington can help find a comparatively peaceful solution to the Namibian issue. He extolled both late Angolan President Agostinho Neto, who was his personal friend, and President Eduardo dos Santos as devoted nationalists. Dr Kaunda reiterated his warning about an impending explosion that would not leave out anyone in southern Africa, if the situation in the region was not (?solved). He called for the release of nationalist Nelson Mandela and for dialogue in South Africa.

Asked whether he has ever considered retiring like his Tanzanian counterpart, Dr Julius Nyerere, he said his line was a different one, adding that as long as the people of Zambia wanted him to continue leading them, he would do so.

Kaunda Discusses OAU, Drought, South Africa

MB231642 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Speaking this morning when he received credentials from the new Liberian ambassador to Zambia, Mr (Charles Hansford), Dr Kaunda called for the strengthening of the OAU and resolving the continent's internal issues. Dr Kaunda said that the pervasive problems affecting [word indistinct] had been worsened with the drought which had resulted in loss of life. Dr Kaunda also said he would like to see King Hassan II of Morocco see sense in solving the problem of the Western Sahara [words indistinct].

On southern Africa, Dr Kaunda pointed out that there was need for Africa to put pressure on the United States and South Africa to compel them to honor Resolution 435 on Namibia.

President Kaunda said apartheid was an abominable system which cut across all religious teachings. He said although much had been said about the system, it is still continuing and people in South Africa are still living as foreigners in their own country. He said the OAU had a big role to play in alerting and searching the conscience of the supporters of apartheid to stop giving their support.

Earlier, Mr (Hansford) said Liberia was troubled by continued conflicts in Chad and Western Sahara.

Zulu Explains Troop Presence on Borders

MB231309 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Secretary of State for Defense and Security Grey Zulu has said that the especially dangerous situation in the Copperbelt has necessitated the deployment of the troops especially along borders to complement the efforts of the police. Mr Zulu also implored the nation to guard against hate and condemnation of the activities of the security forces lest they end up damaging the country's reputation to the outside world.

Contributing in a vote of thanks to President Kaunda's opening speech to parliament, Mr Zulu said troops at the borders were under strict orders not to allow anyone to smuggle essential commodities out of the country and have a duty to carry out these instructions. He said the public should understand and cooperate with the security forces because they are stationed along the country's borders to avoid loss of lives. Mr Zulu also told the house that the principal search along the borders with a neighboring country recovered over 155,000 kg of maize meal that was to be smuggled out of the country between 1983 and last year.

It was at this juncture that Mr Zulu called on members of the parliament to educate businessmen in their areas on the effects of smuggling which apart from being a drain on the country's commodities could lead to serious problems in the nation. He assured the members that freedom of speech will always prevail and the party and its government had no intention of suppressing such freedoms.

ZIMBABWE

PRC Minerals Officials Visit Country

MB211943 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Two officials from the China National Metals and Minerals Import and Export Corporation are in Zimbabwe to explore the possibility of establishing export relations with the Minerals Marketing Corporation of Zimbabwe. The two officials, Comrades (Mi Liuhui) and (Lin Hong), who arrived in the country last Saturday, will be visiting (Zisco) tomorrow and Wednesday.